

# Hikaru



**SHONEN JUMP MANGA**

Story by **Yumi Hotta** Art by **Takeshi Obata**

Supervised by **Yukari Umezawa (5 Dan)**

**volume**

**5**





Yumi Hotta

If one were to play Hyakunin Isshu with Sai, he'd be merciless and not let you get a single card. Meanie!

—Yumi Hotta

It all began when Yumi Hotta played a pick-up game of Go with her father-in-law. As she was learning how to play, Ms. Hotta thought it might be fun to create a story around the traditional board game. More confident in her storytelling abilities than her drawing skills, she submitted the beginnings of **Hikaru no Go** to **Weekly Shonen Jump**'s Story King Award. The Story King Award is an award that picks the best story, manga, character design and youth (under 15) manga submissions every year in Japan. As fate would have it, Ms. Hotta's story (originally named, "**Kokonotsu no Hoshi**"), was a runner-up in the "Story" category of the Story King Award. Many years earlier, Takeshi Obata was a runner-up for the Tezuka Award, another Japanese manga contest sponsored by **Weekly Shonen Jump** and **Monthly Shonen Jump**. An editor assigned to Mr. Obata's artwork came upon Ms. Hotta's story and paired the two for a full-fledged manga about Go. The rest is modern Go history.



**HIKARU NO GO VOL. 5**  
**SHONEN JUMP Manga Edition**

This graphic novel contains material that was originally published in English from  
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STORY BY YUMI HOTTA  
ART BY TAKESHI OBATA  
Supervised by YUKARI UMEZAWA (5 Dan)

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arranged by SHUEISHA Inc.

Some underage smoking scenes have been modified from the original Japanese edition.

The stories, characters and incidents mentioned in this publication are entirely fictional.

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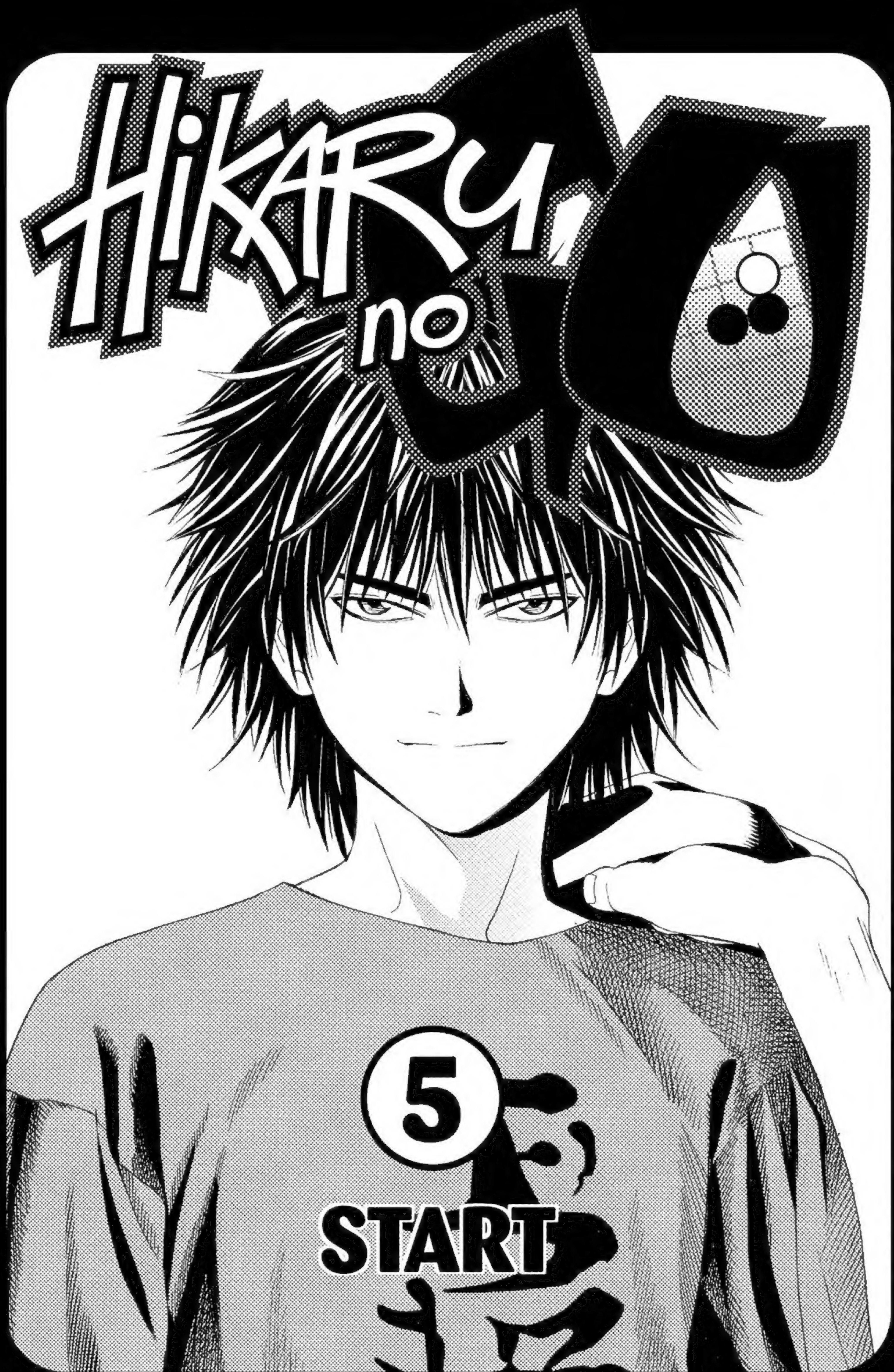
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STORY BY YUMI HOTTA

ART BY TAKESHI OBATA

Supervised by YUKARI UMEZAWA (5 Dan)



A black and white manga-style illustration. Hikaru Shindo, a young man with long hair, is smiling and wearing a dark, flowing robe. He is holding a small bowl of sweets. Behind him, Fujiwara-no-Sai, a woman with long hair, is looking forward with a neutral expression, wearing a traditional Japanese garment. The background shows a grid pattern, possibly a window or ceiling.

**Hikaru Shindo**

**Fujiwara-no-Sai**

● **Introduction** ●

A black and white manga-style illustration of Akira Toya, a young man with short hair and bangs, wearing a light-colored button-down shirt. He has a serious expression and is looking directly at the viewer.

**Akira Toya**



**Yuki Mitani**



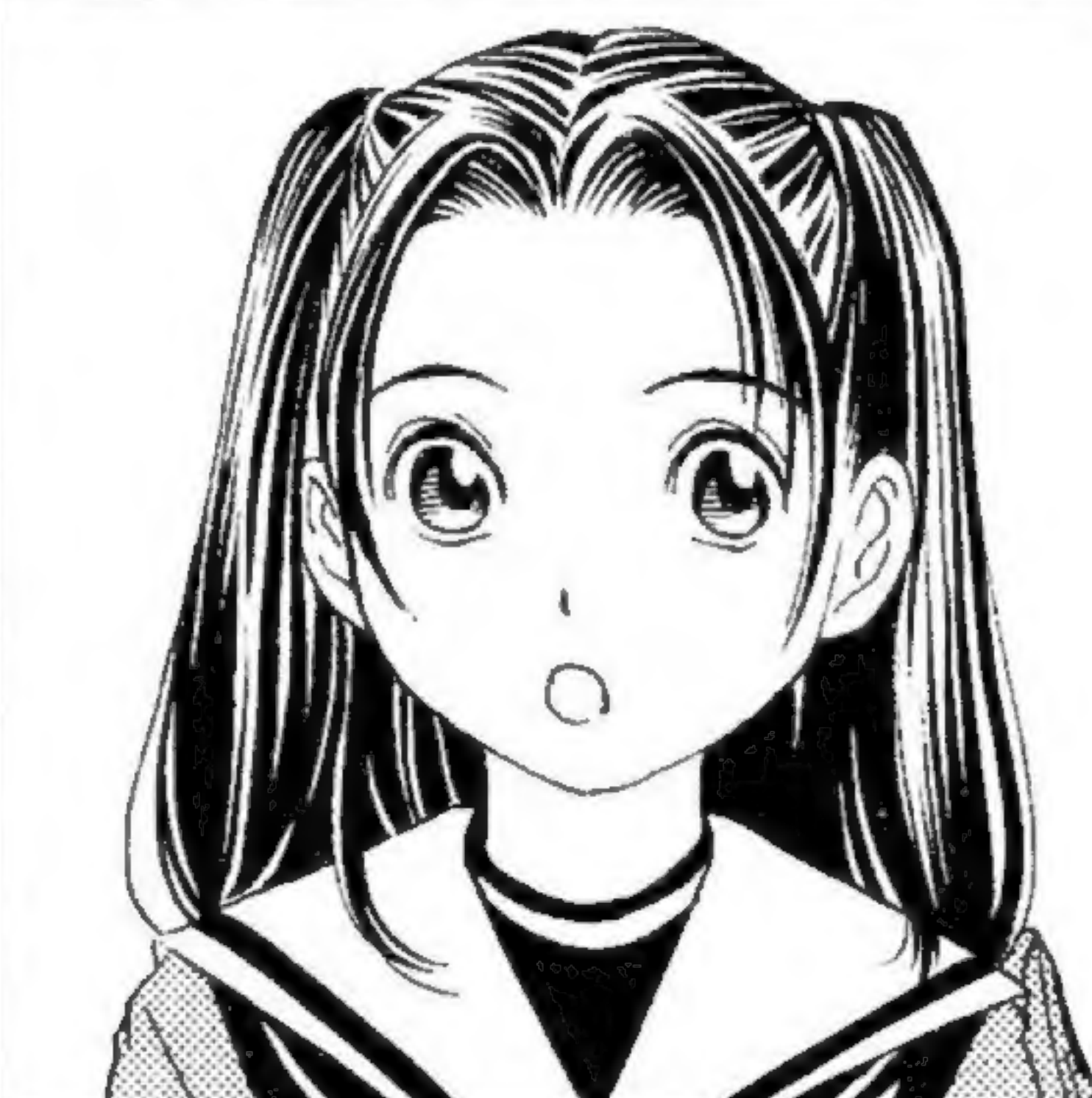
**Tetsuo Kaga**



**Kimihiro Tsutsui**



**Akari Fujisaki**



### **Story Thus Far**

One day, Hikaru, a sixth grader, discovers an old go board in his grandfather's attic. The instant Hikaru touches the board, the spirit of Fujiwara-no-Sai, a genius go player from Japan's Heian Era, enters Hikaru's consciousness. Inspired by Sai's love of go, and by his encounter with the prodigy Akira Toya (son of go master Toya Meijin), Hikaru is slowly drawn to the game.

Hikaru and Akira face off for a third time at a middle school go tournament. Hikaru is determined to play Akira by himself, but he ends up letting Sai play instead. Midway through the game, however, Hikaru thinks up an interesting move and decides to play it. Naturally, he loses the game. Both Kimihiro and Yuki lose their games, too, and in the second round Haze Middle School is eliminated from the tournament. Akira is so disappointed by Hikaru's true abilities that he makes up his mind to take the pro test. With the onset of summer vacation, Hikaru begins playing Internet go as "sai" and defeats strong players around the world one after another. At the World Amateur Go Tournament, Akira learns of Sai's online presence, and his subsequent match with the anonymous player takes an unexpected turn—Akira resigns from the game and requests a rematch. But the day that the two have set for the next game is the first day of the pro test. Akira skips the test and prepares to face "sai" instead.



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"HE EVEN  
BEATS  
THE PROS."

"THEY SAY  
HE'S NOT  
A PRO."

"BUT HE'S SO  
STRONG..."



"HE MIGHT  
BE A KID..."



F  
S  
H  
H  
H



TICK

TOCK

TICK

A KID...

Game 35: "Sai vs. Akira"



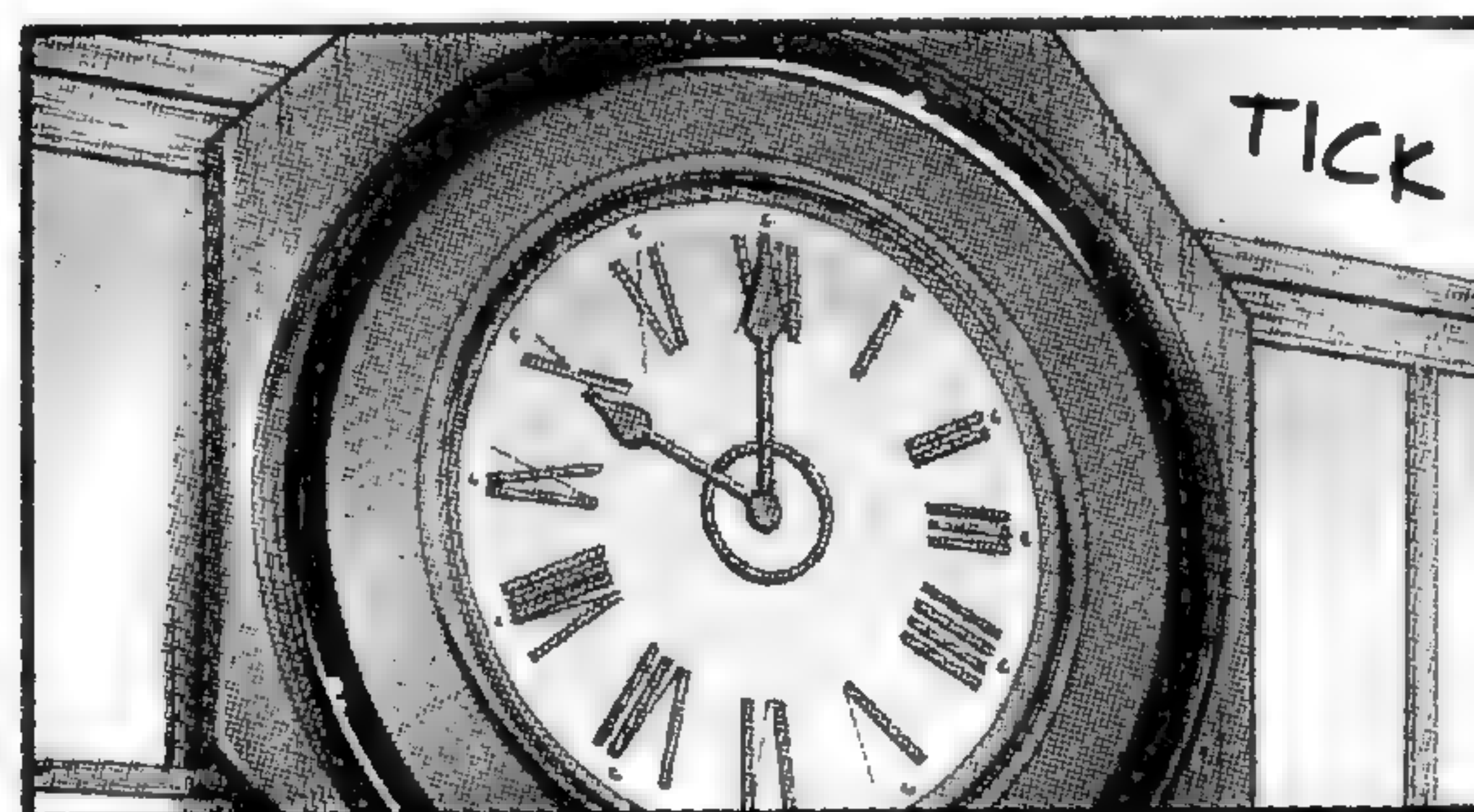




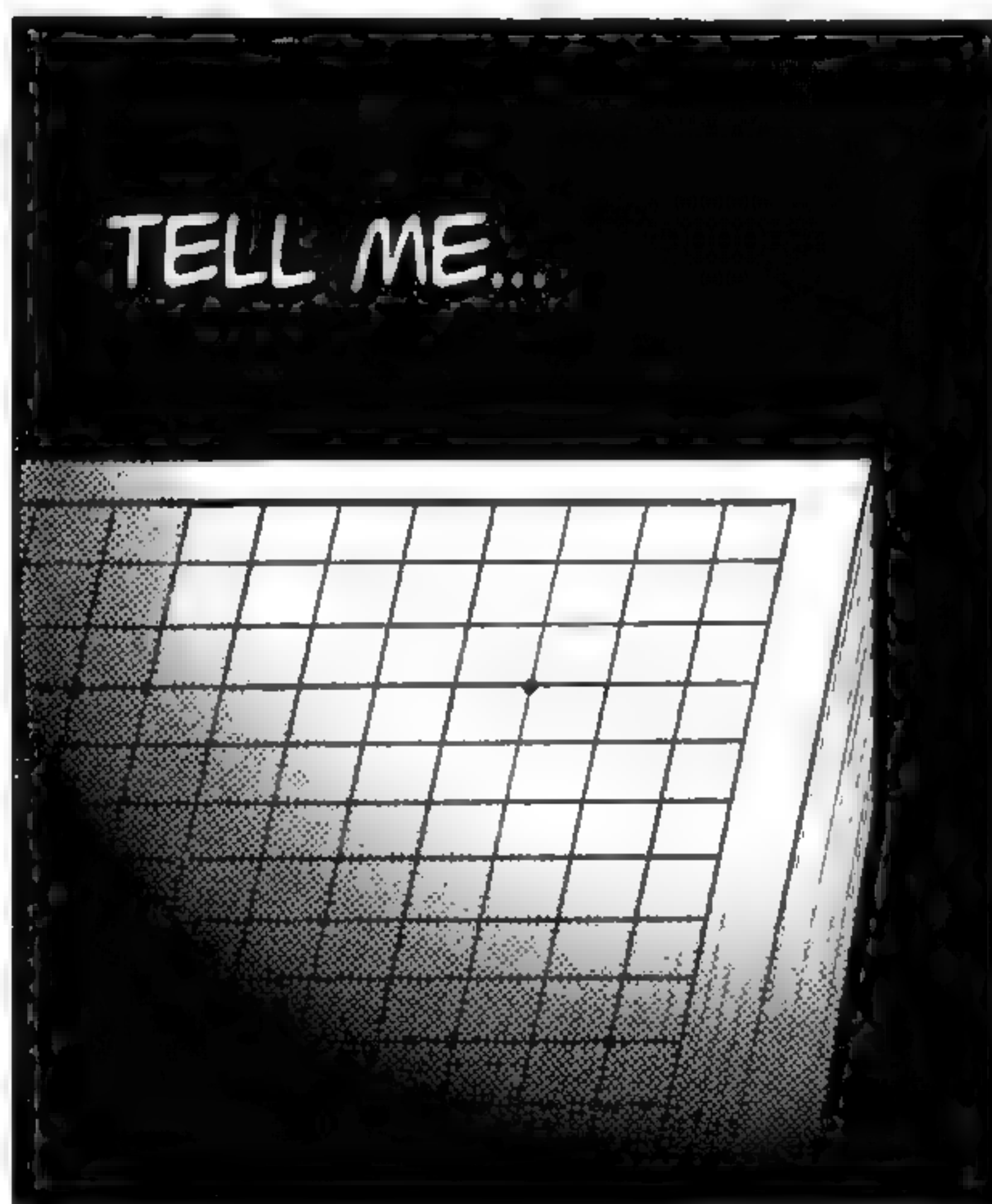
# Game 35 "Sai vs. Akira"



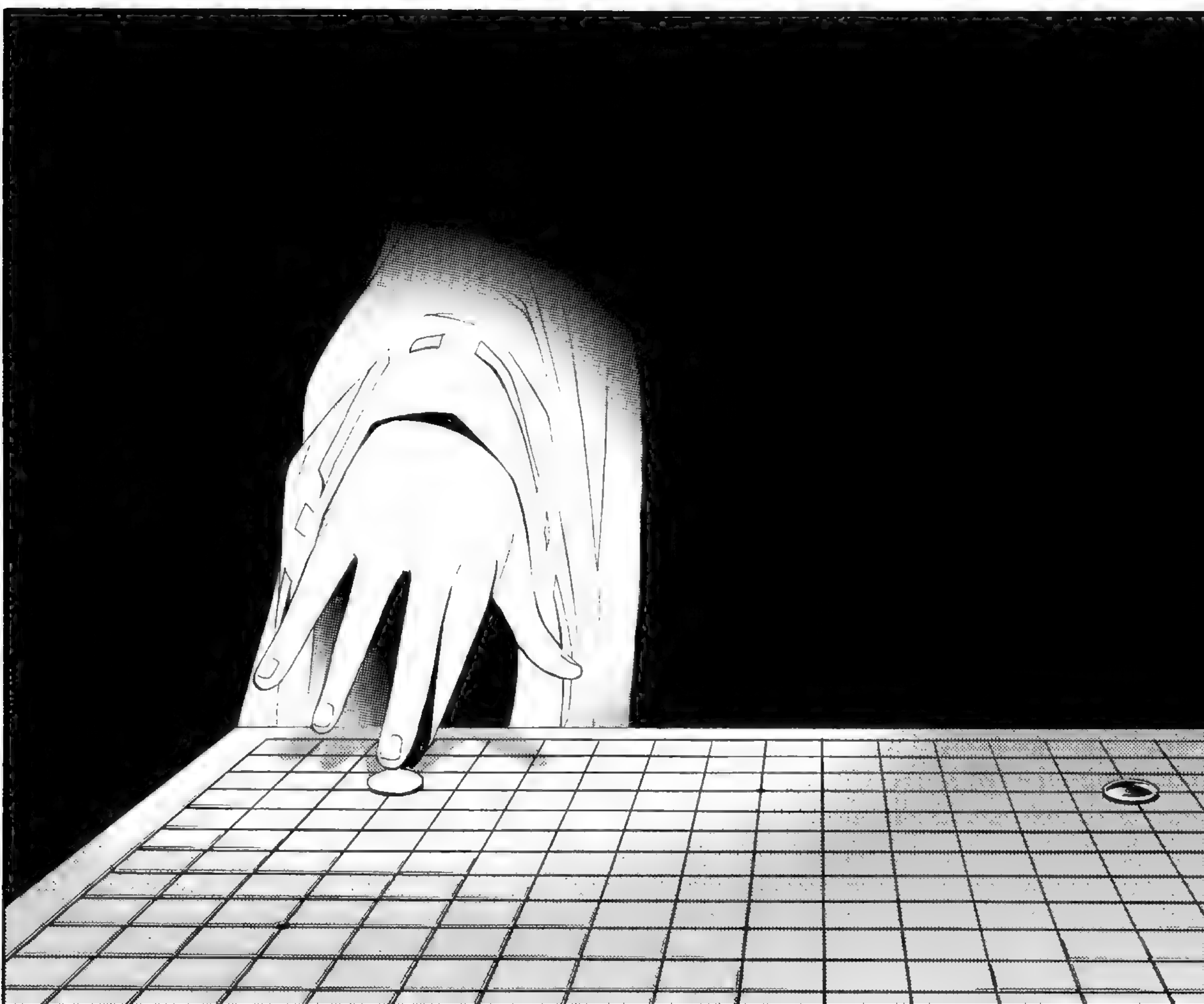
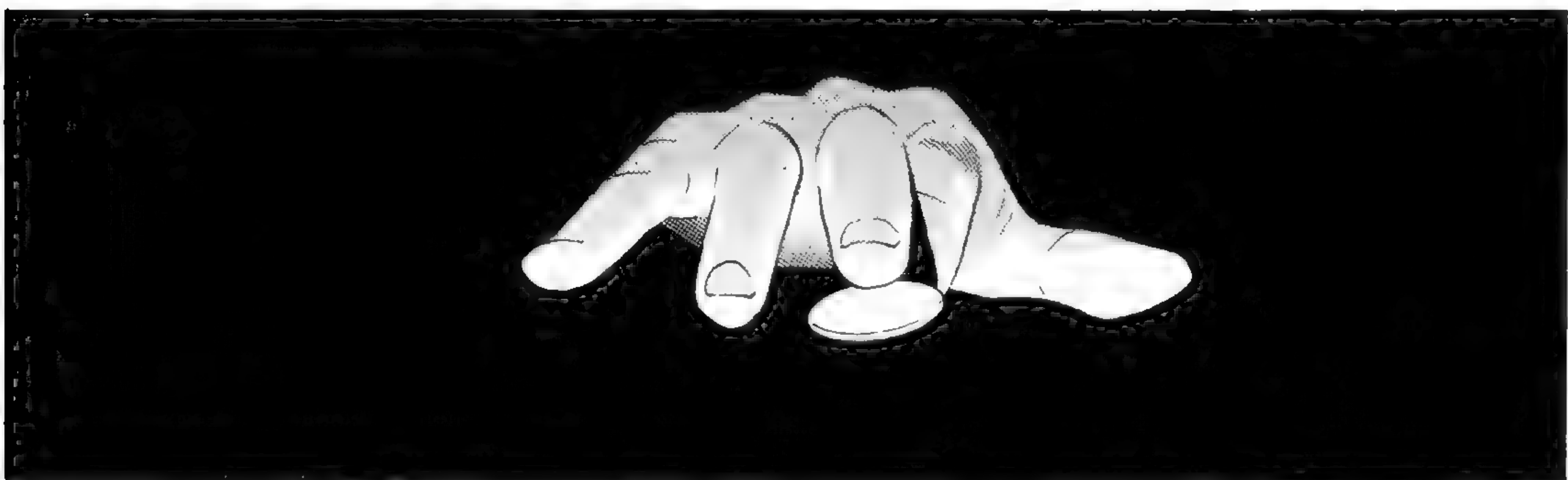
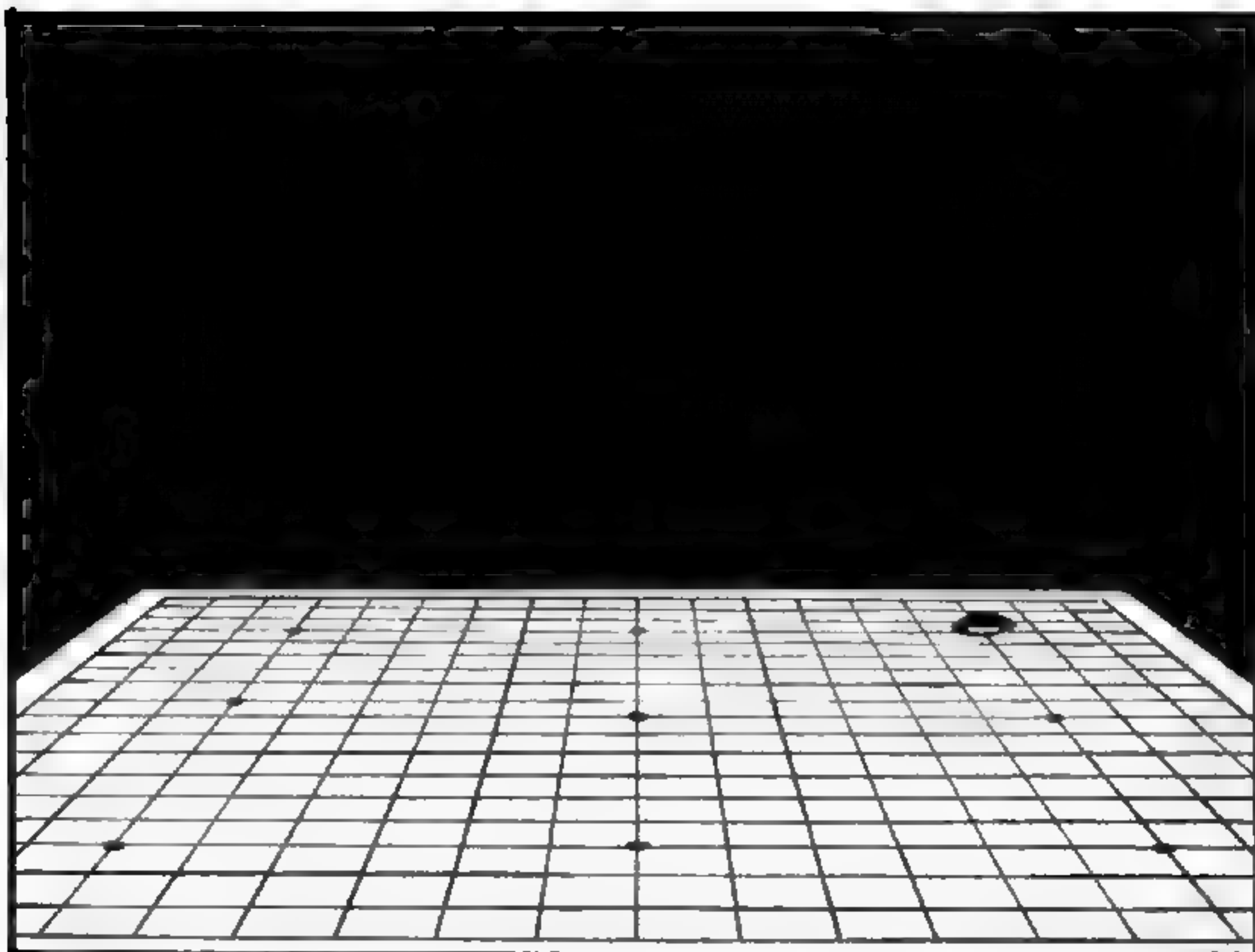




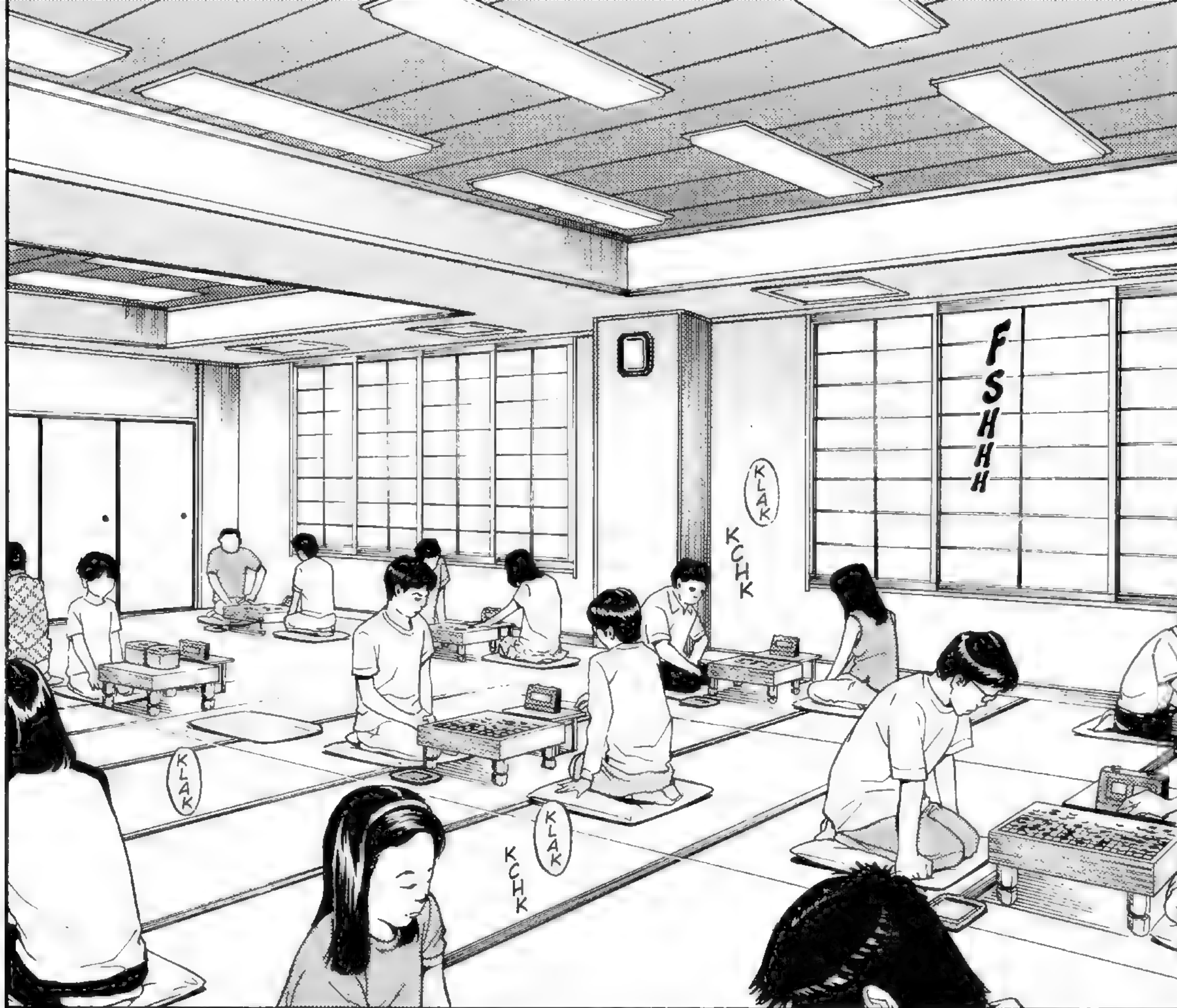




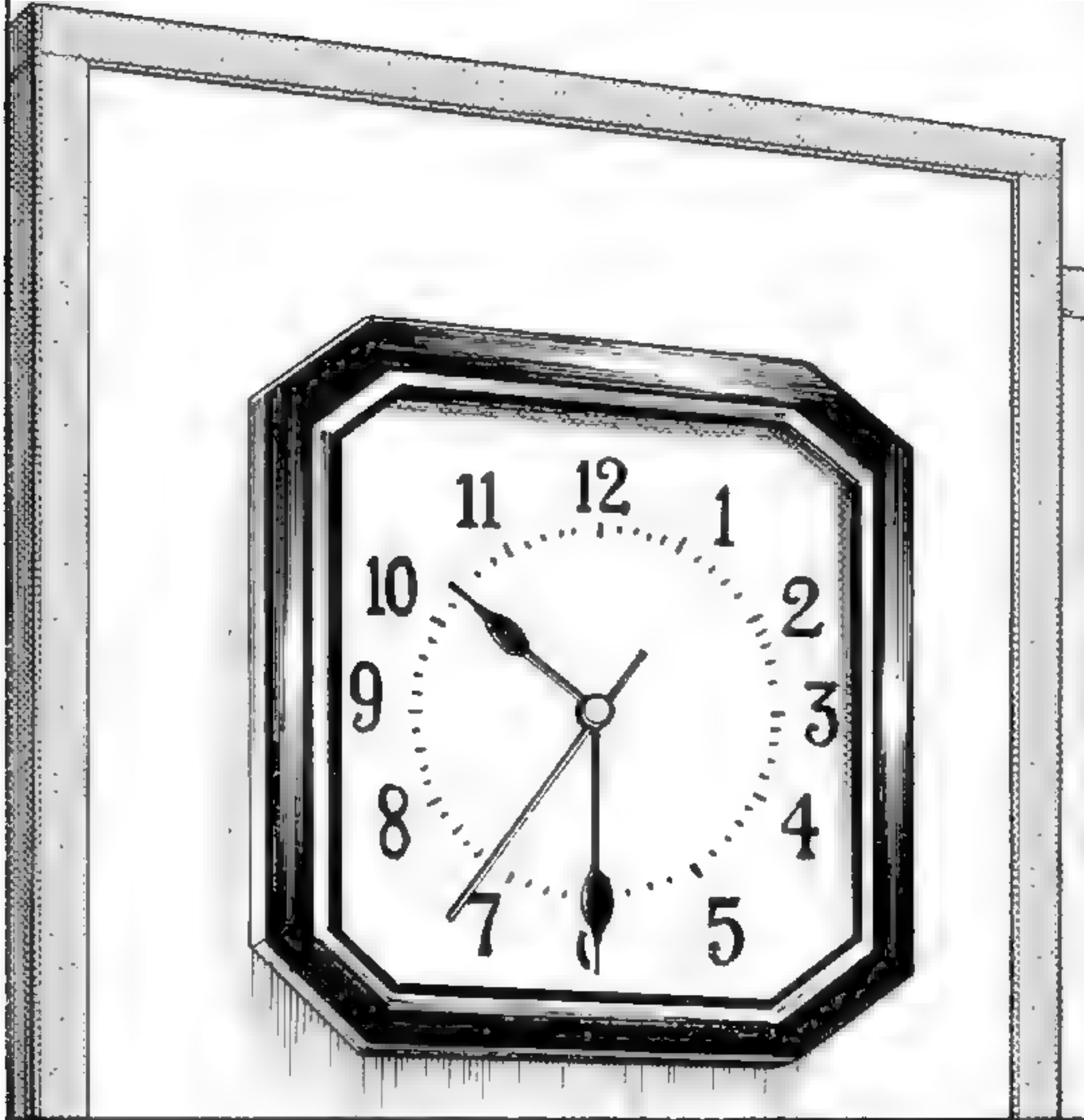












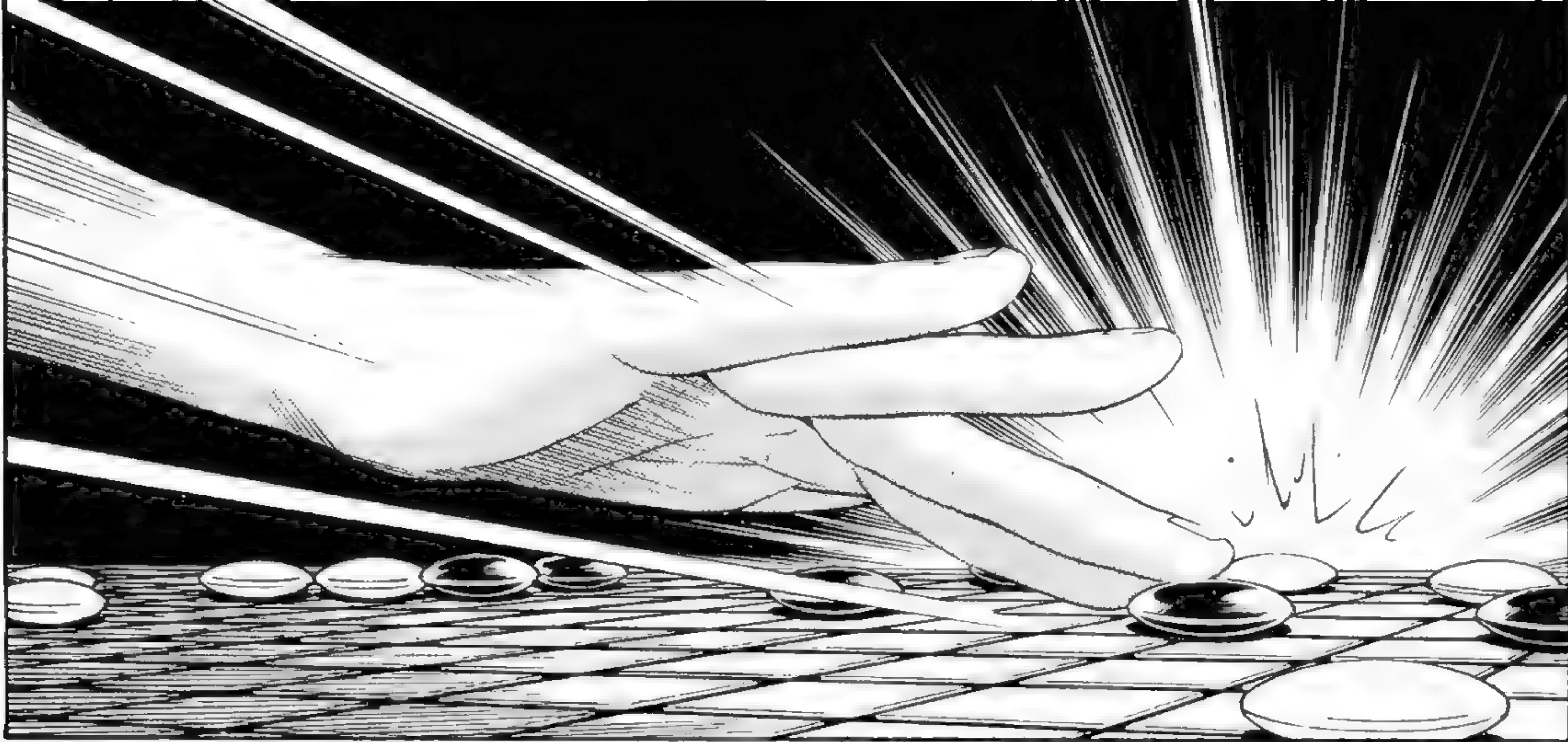




Akira has a black mark next to his name now.





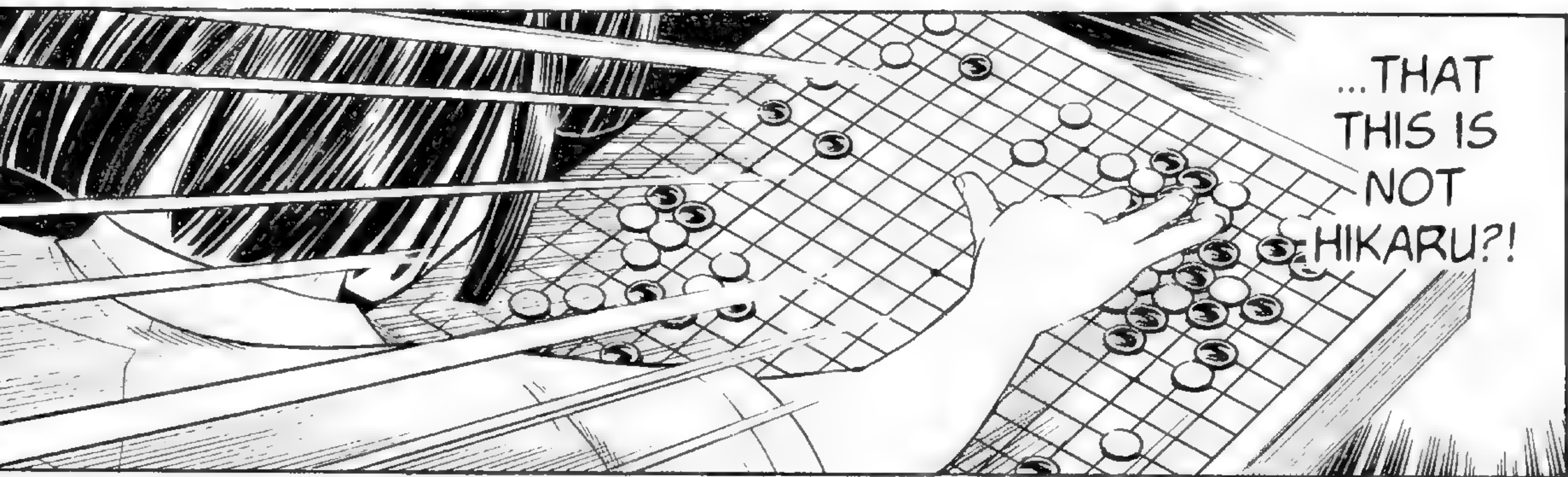




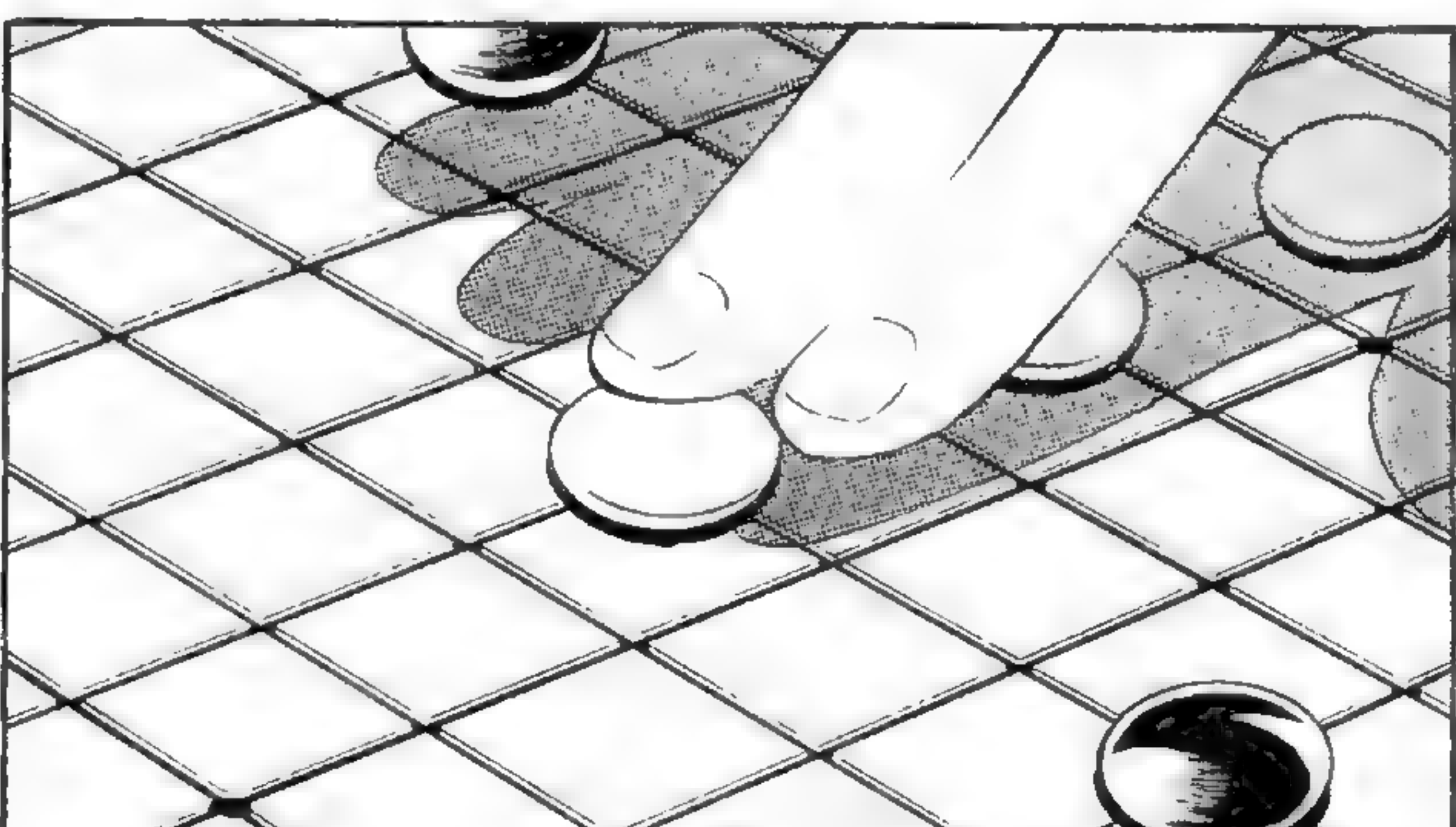


COULD  
IT BE...

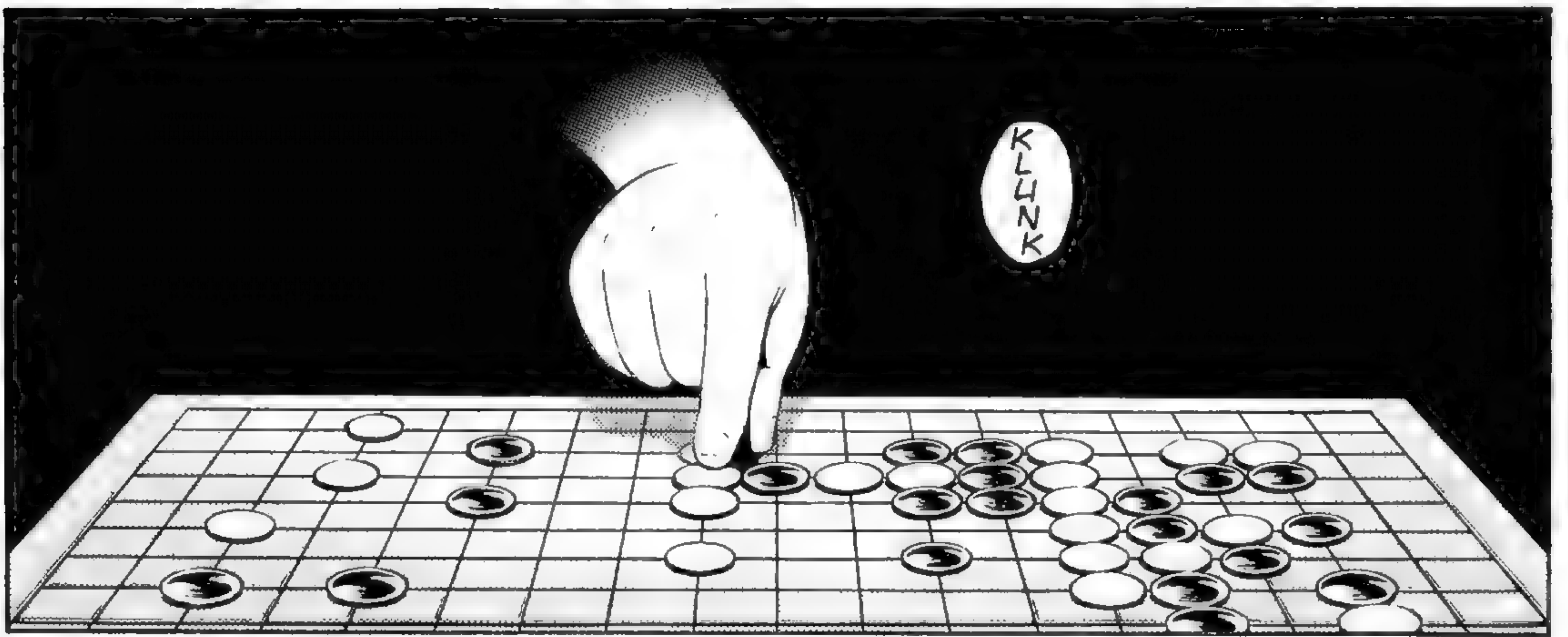
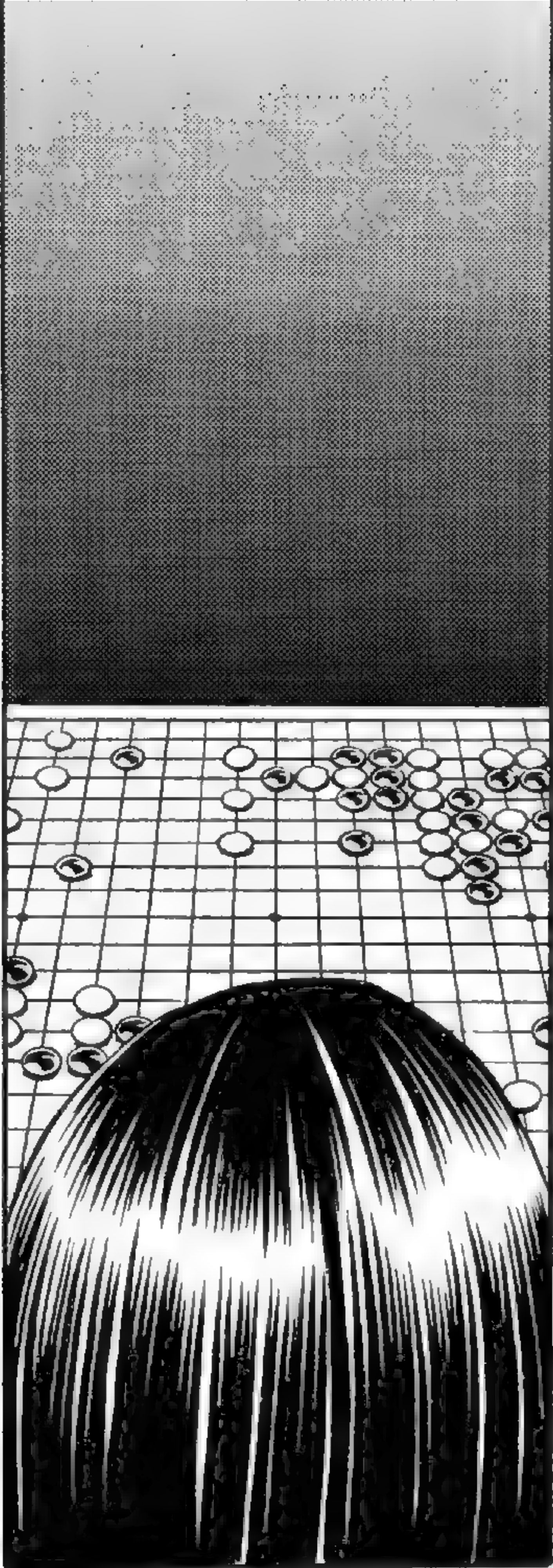
I SENSE  
A GREAT  
WALL EVEN  
MORE  
DIFFICULT  
TO OVER-  
COME  
THAN THE  
LAST TIME  
I LOST TO  
HIKARU  
SHINDO.



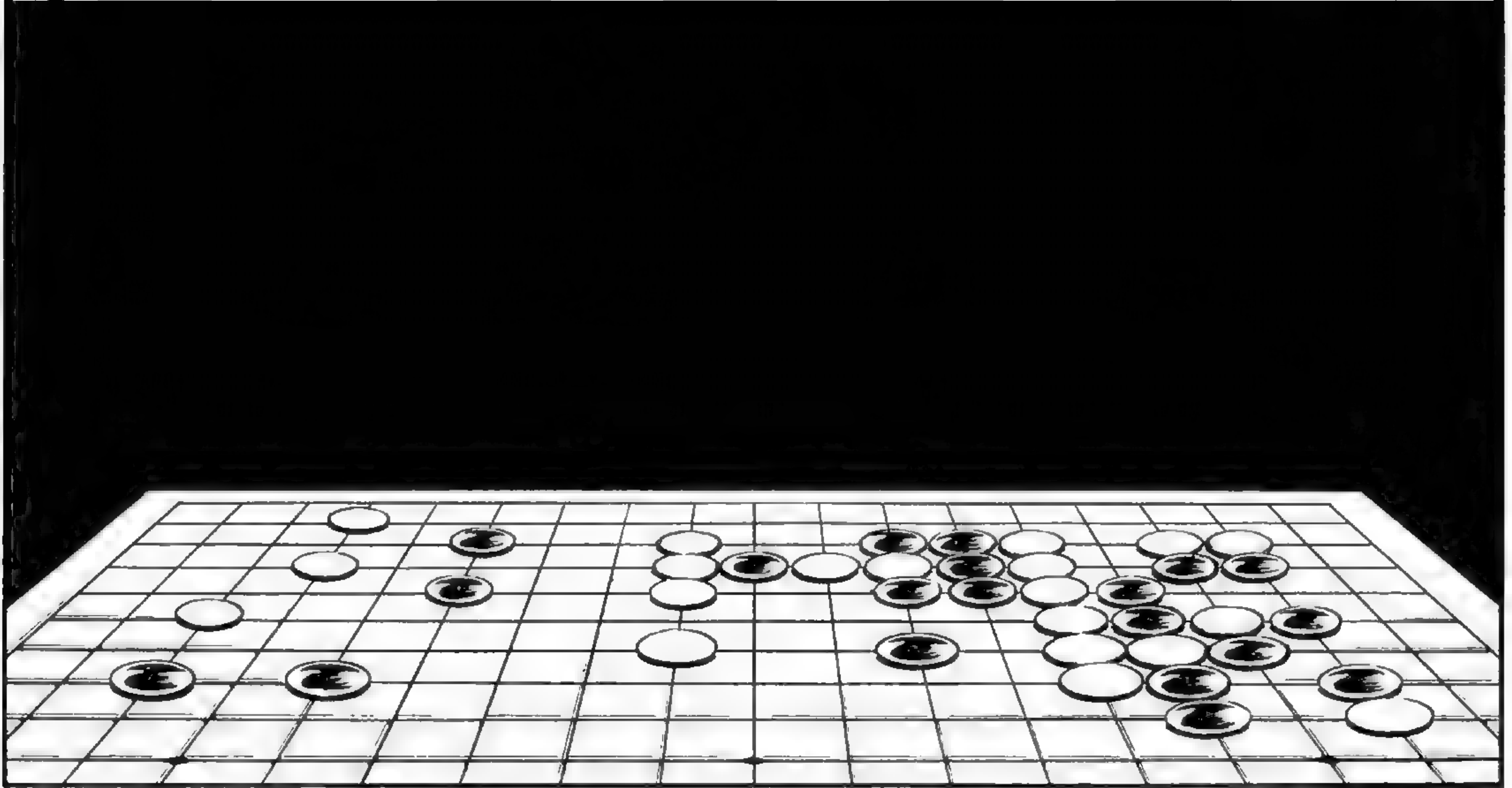
...THAT  
THIS IS  
NOT  
HIKARU?!



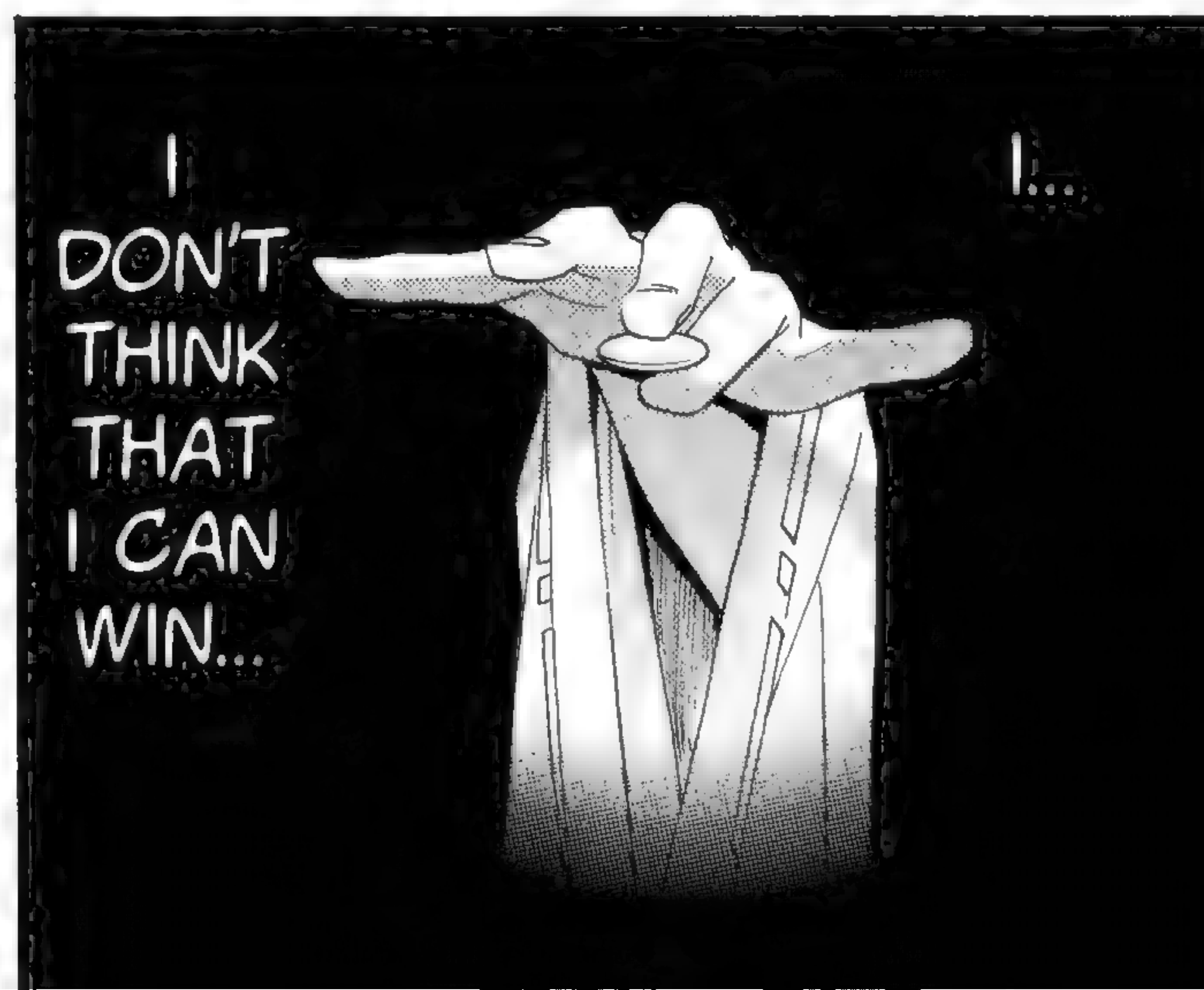
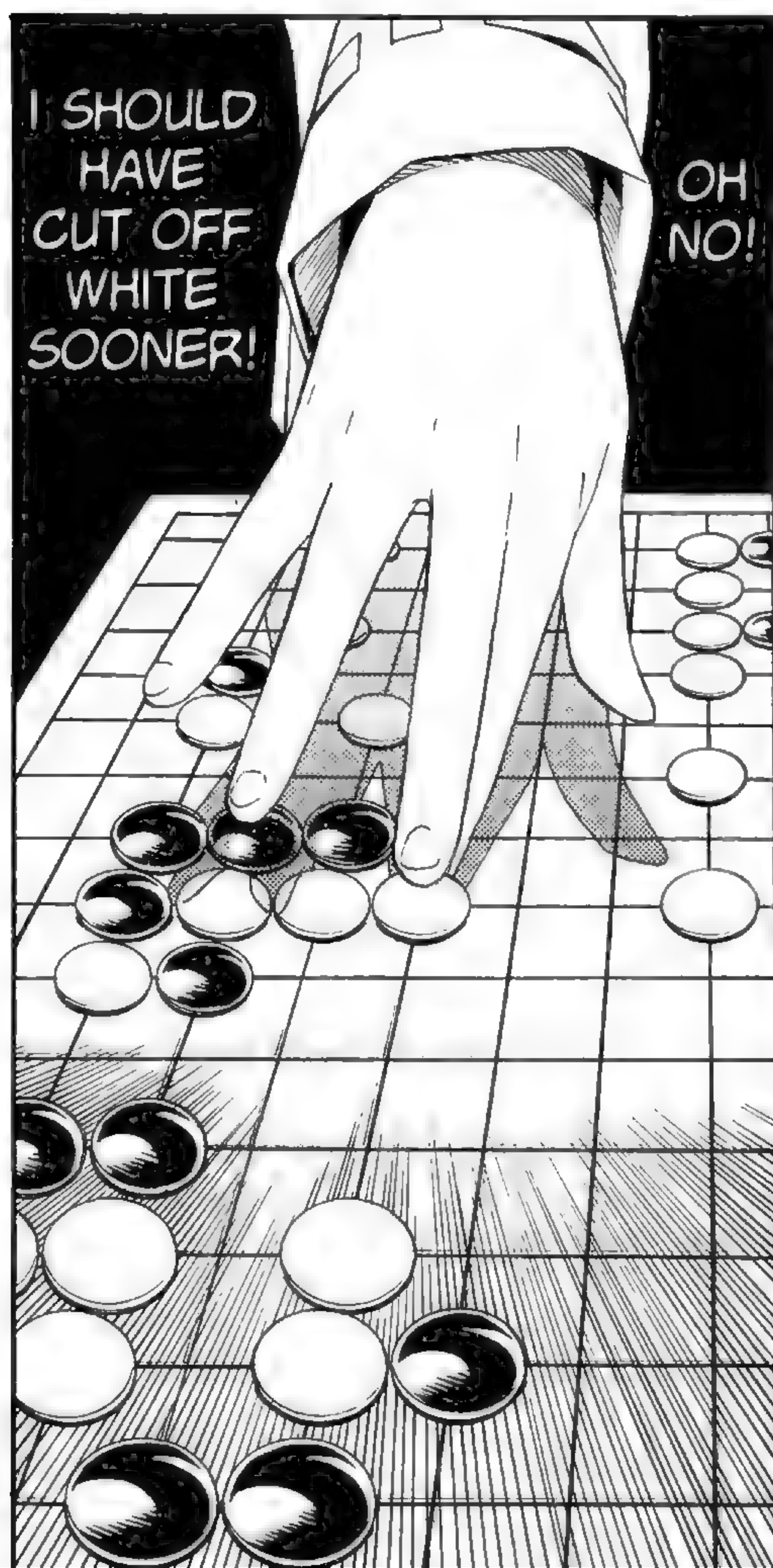
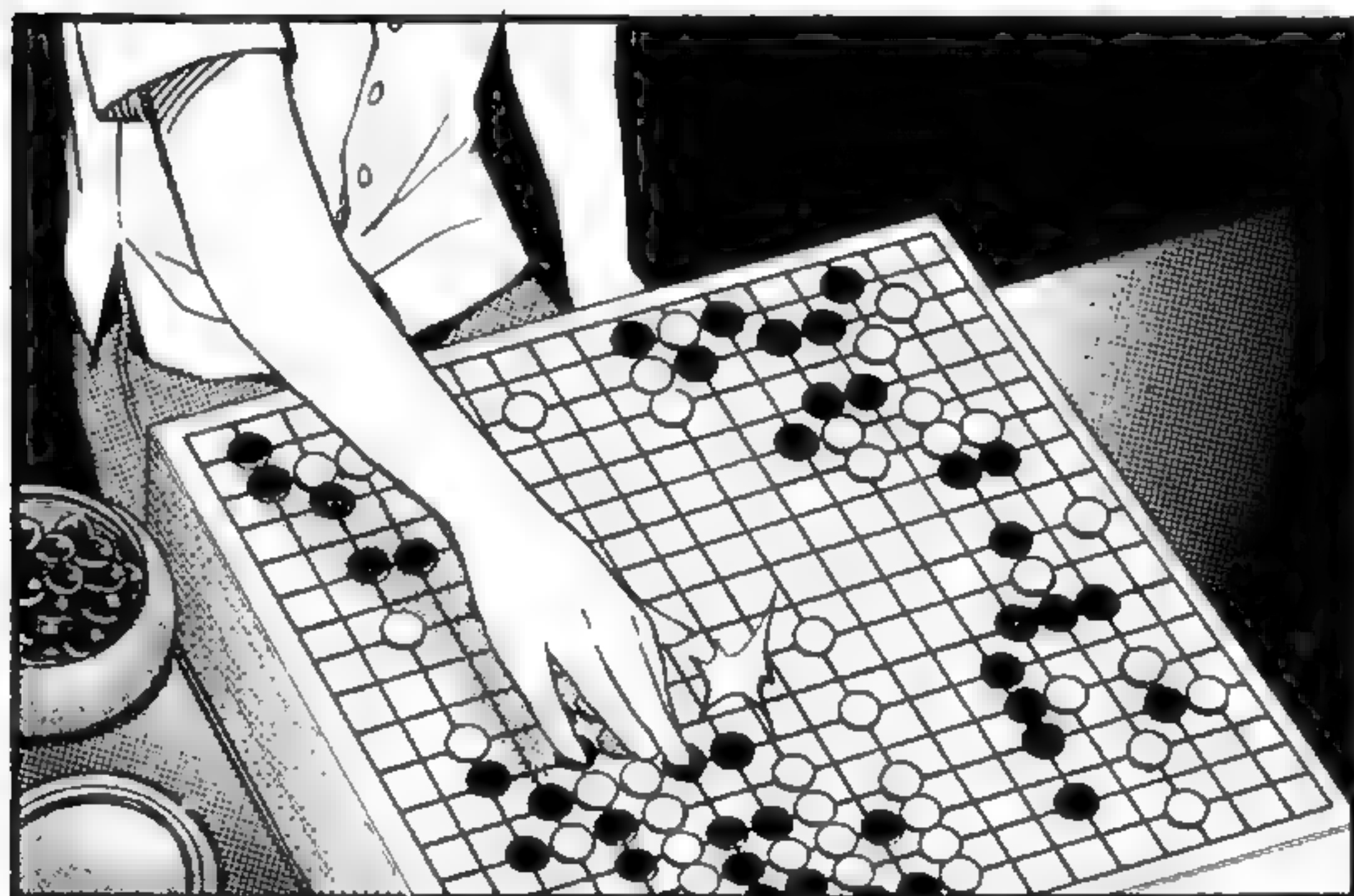
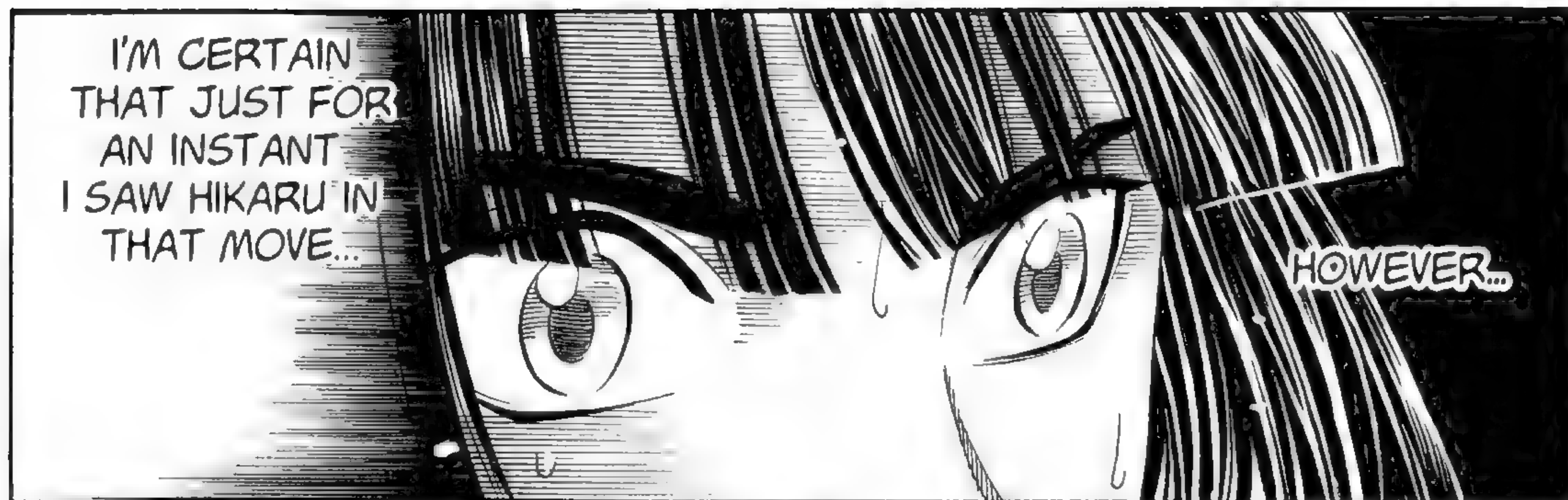








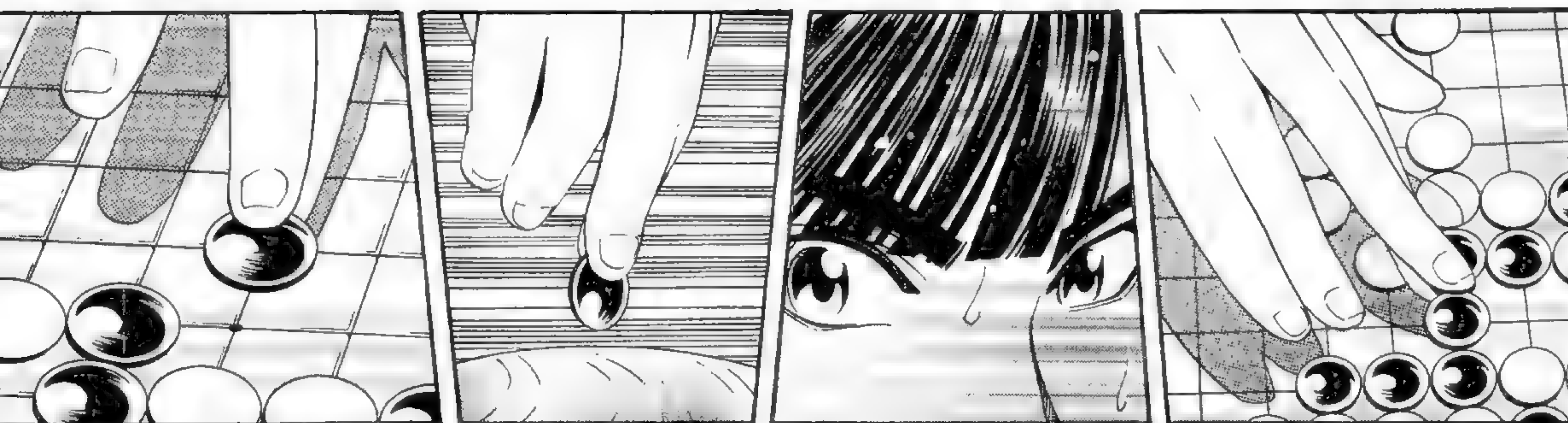






IT'S  
GOING TO BE  
DIFFICULT TO  
HOLD OUT IN  
BOTH THE  
CENTER AND  
THE RIGHT!

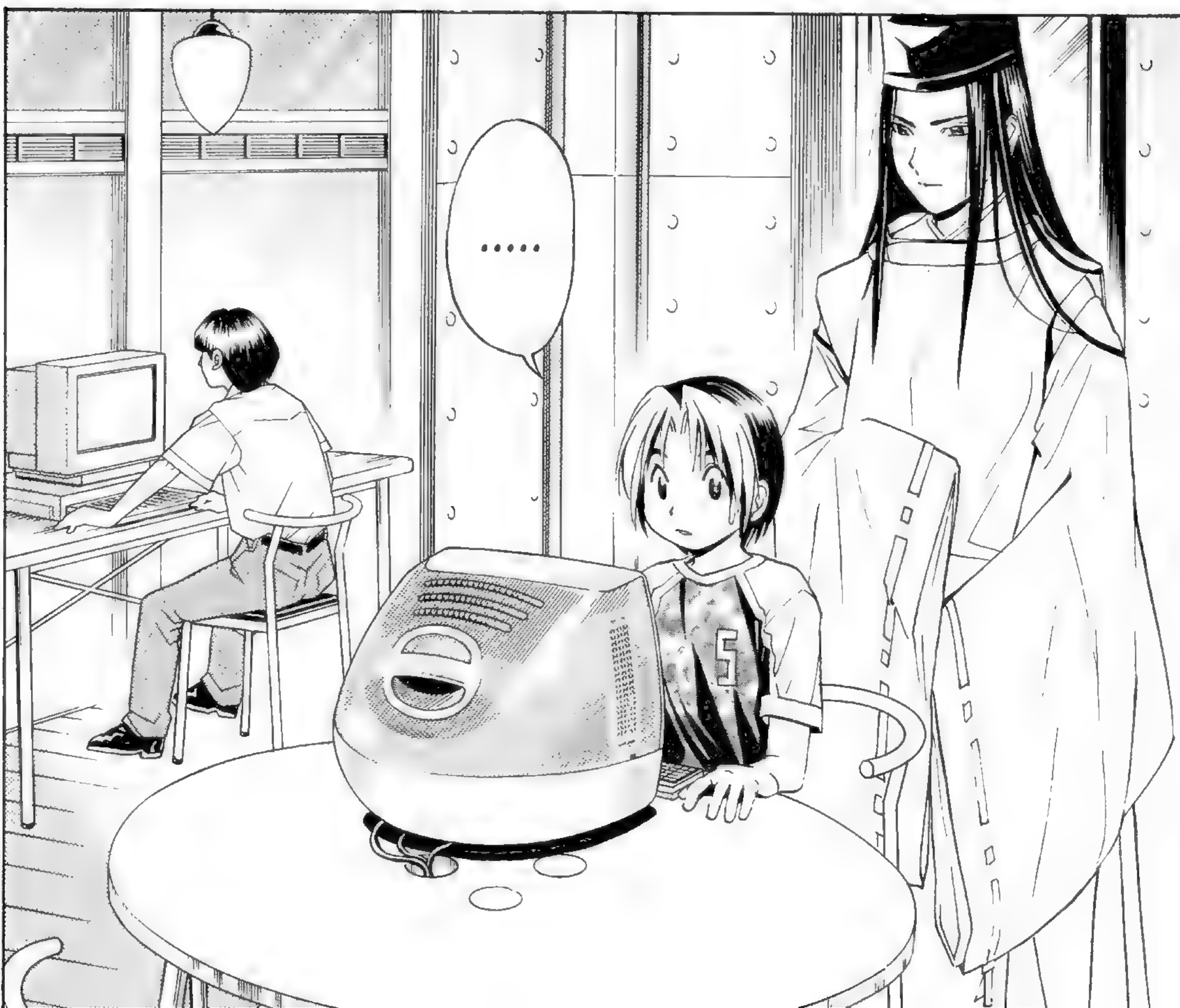
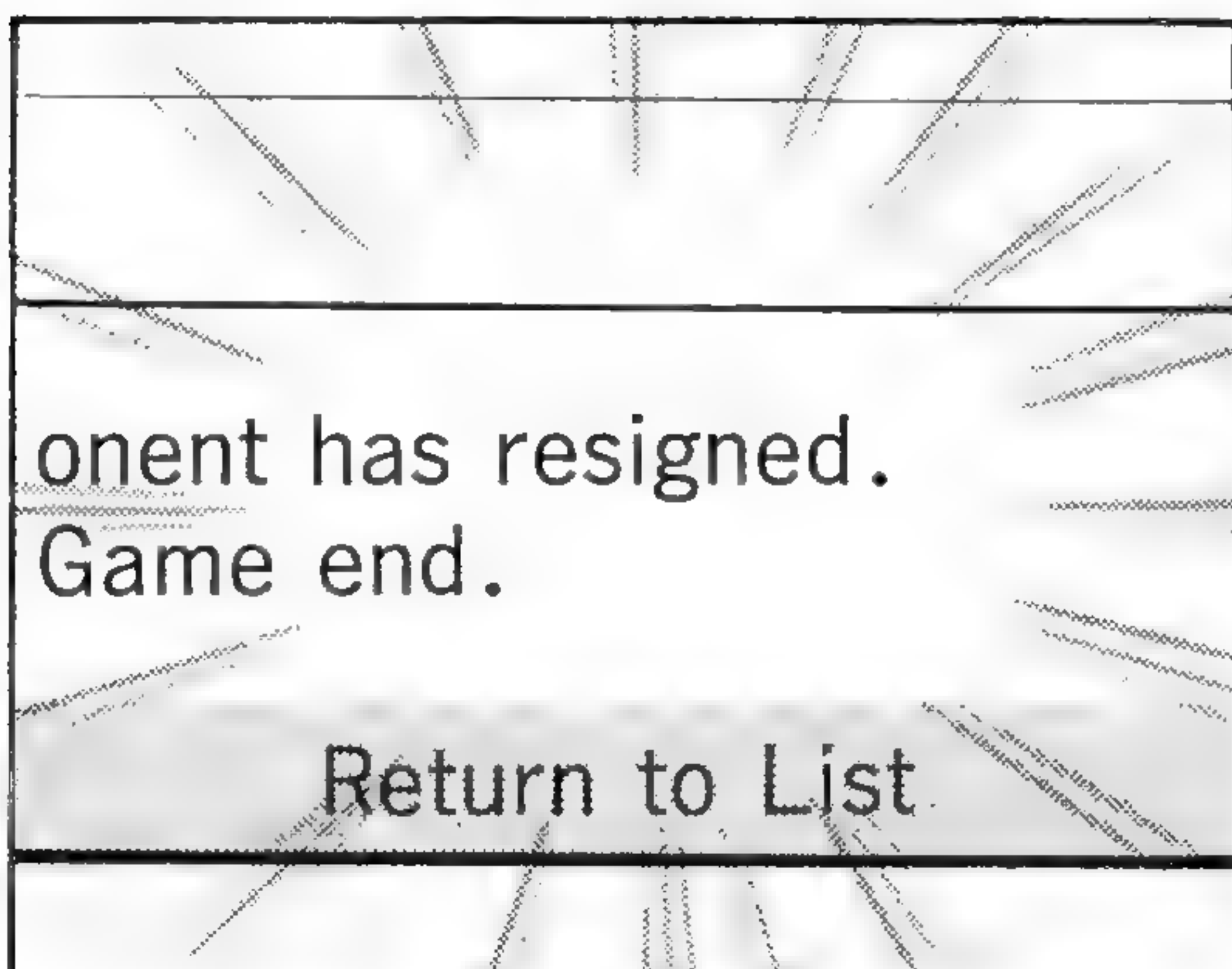
WITH  
THIS...



...HAS  
NO  
CHANCE  
OF  
SUR-  
VIVING  
...

BLACK  
IN THE  
CENTER...





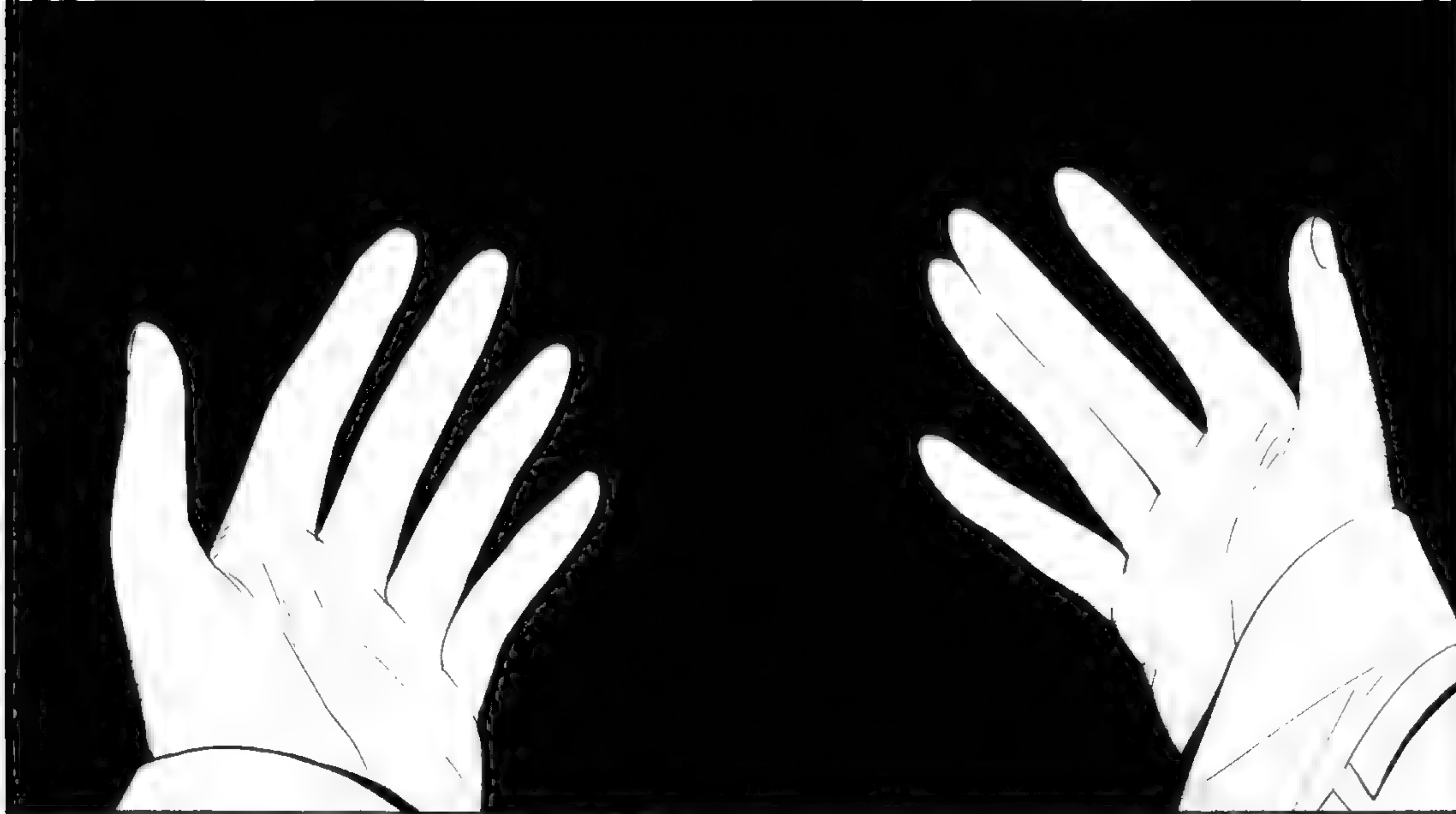














I WON'T  
LEAVE MY  
HOUSE ON  
THE DAYS  
WHEN I  
EXPECT  
THEM TO  
COME.



OBATA SENSEI  
SENDS COPIES  
OF HIS FINISHED  
ARTWORK TO ME  
EVERY WEEK BY  
EXPRESS MAIL.

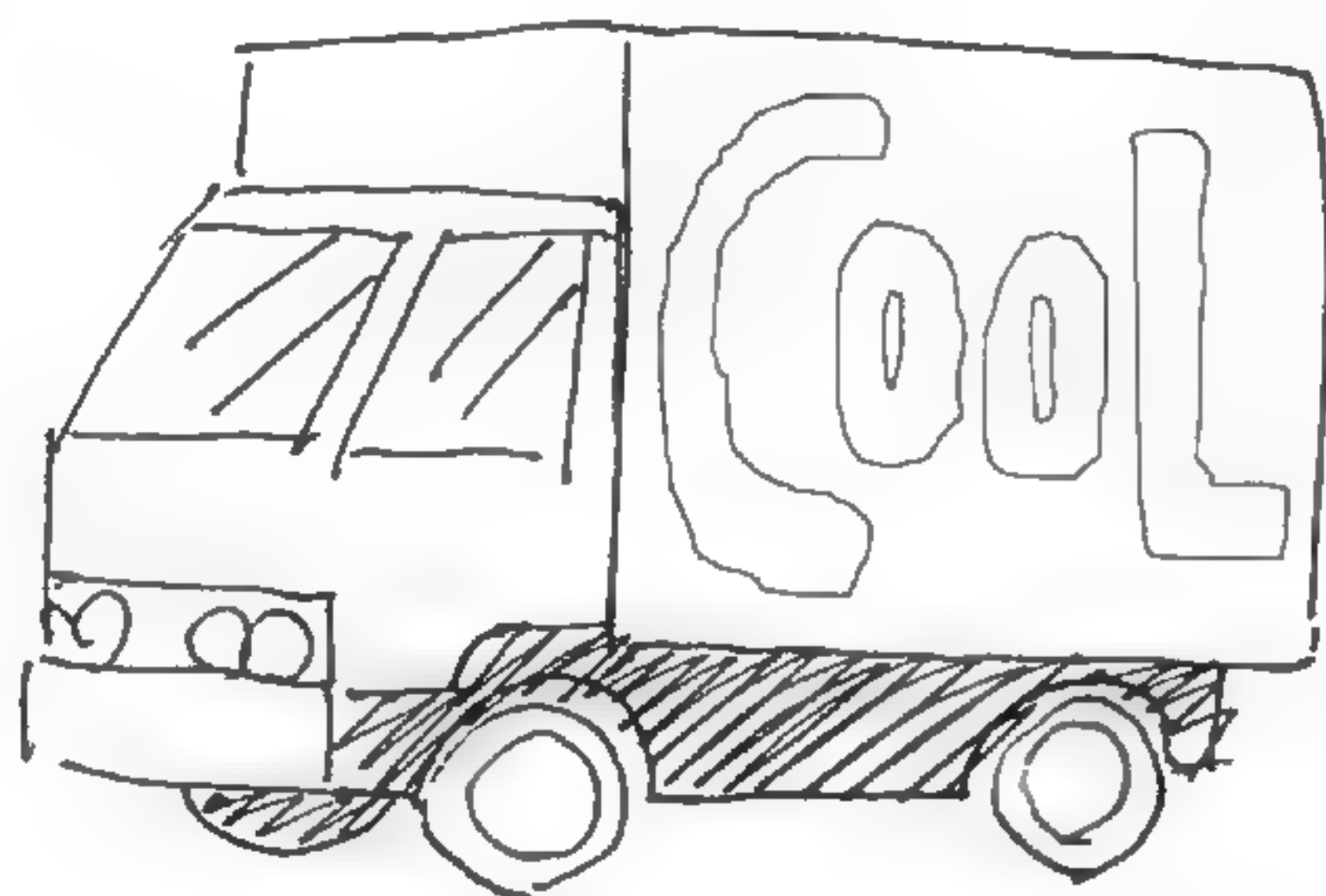
# HIKARU NO GO STORYBOARDS

⑫

YUMI  
HOTTA



THE DRIVER  
OF THE  
REFRIGER-  
ATED TRUCK  
CAME DOWN  
FROM THE  
LOADING  
PLATFORM.



ONE DAY WHEN I WAS  
PRETTY SURE I WOULDN'T  
GET A DELIVERY, I WAS  
ABOUT TO GO OUT WHEN  
I SAW AN EXPRESS MAIL  
REFRIGERATED TRUCK  
PARKED IN FRONT OF MY  
HOUSING COMPLEX.

Could it  
really be?!  
Is that it?!



HE WAS ABOUT TO  
ENTER MY BUILDING  
WITH A PACKAGE  
THAT LOOKED  
SUSPICIOUSLY  
LIKE MINE.

Hmph!  
It doesn't feel  
very cold...



A third of the  
space in the  
truck is not  
refrigerated.



IT WAS THE COPIES  
OF THE FINISHED  
ARTWORK FROM OBATA  
SENSEI. APPARENTLY  
REFRIGERATED  
EXPRESS MAIL TRUCKS  
OCCASIONALLY DELIVER  
REGULAR PACKAGES.



Game 36: "Sai's True Identity"

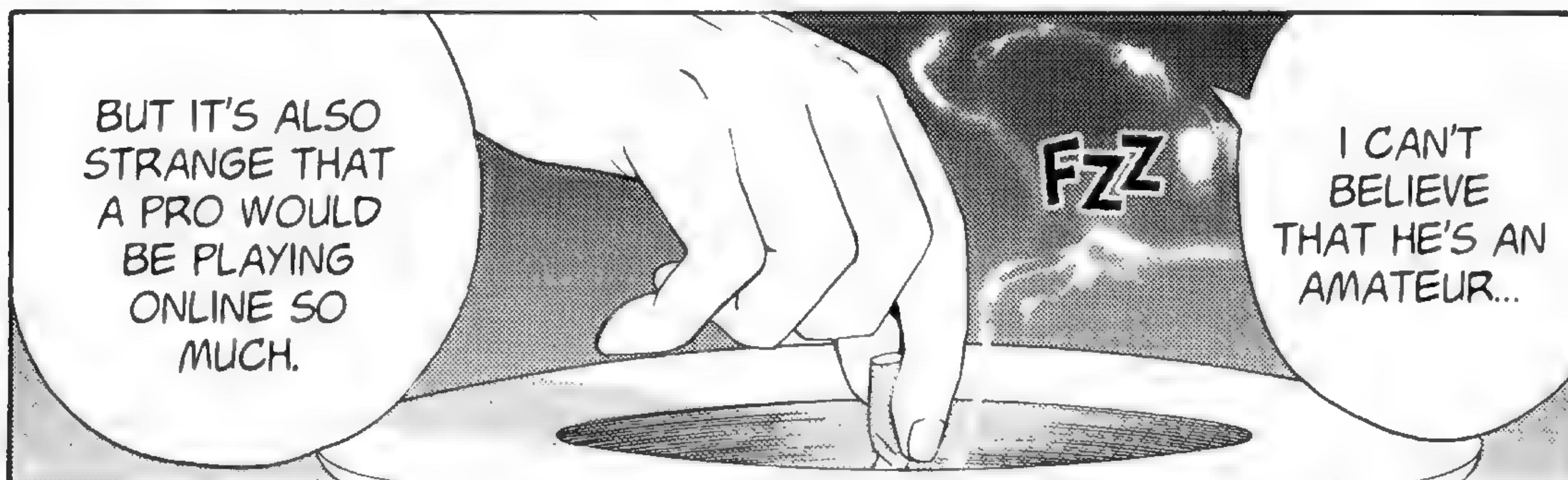




# Game 36 "Sai's True Identity"











AND  
THIS SAI?

A CHILD'S  
GAME IS ROUGH  
AND UNPOLISHED.  
EVEN THE MOST  
TALENTED CHILD  
MAKES  
MISTAKES.

THE  
INTERNET IS  
COMPLETE  
DARKNESS  
WHEN IT  
COMES TO  
A PERSON'S  
IDENTITY.

HE'S REGIS-  
TERED AS  
BEING FROM  
JAPAN, BUT  
WHO KNOWS  
IF THAT'S  
TRUE.



BUT I  
*DO* KNOW  
THAT SAI  
IS NOT A  
CHILD.



IT CALLS  
TO MIND THE  
EXPERIENCE  
OF AN  
ETERNITY  
OF PLAY!

HIS  
EXPERTISE...





F  
S  
S  
S  
H



SO  
AKIRA TOYA  
STARTS OUT  
THE PRO  
TEST WITH  
A LOSS?



TOO BAD  
WE CAN'T GO  
OUTSIDE FOR  
A CHANGE OF  
SCENERY.

IT'S BEEN  
RAINING  
SO MUCH  
LATELY.



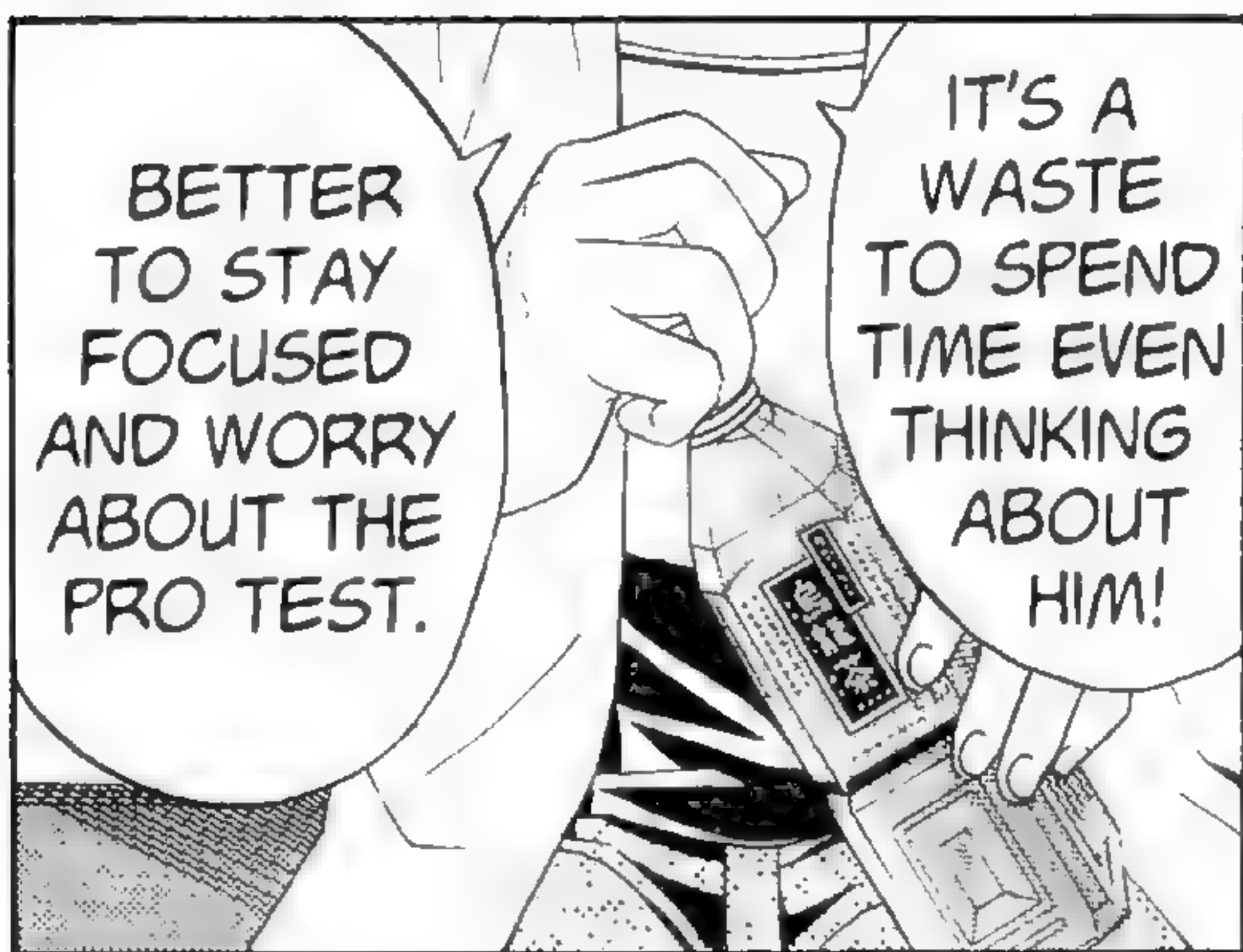
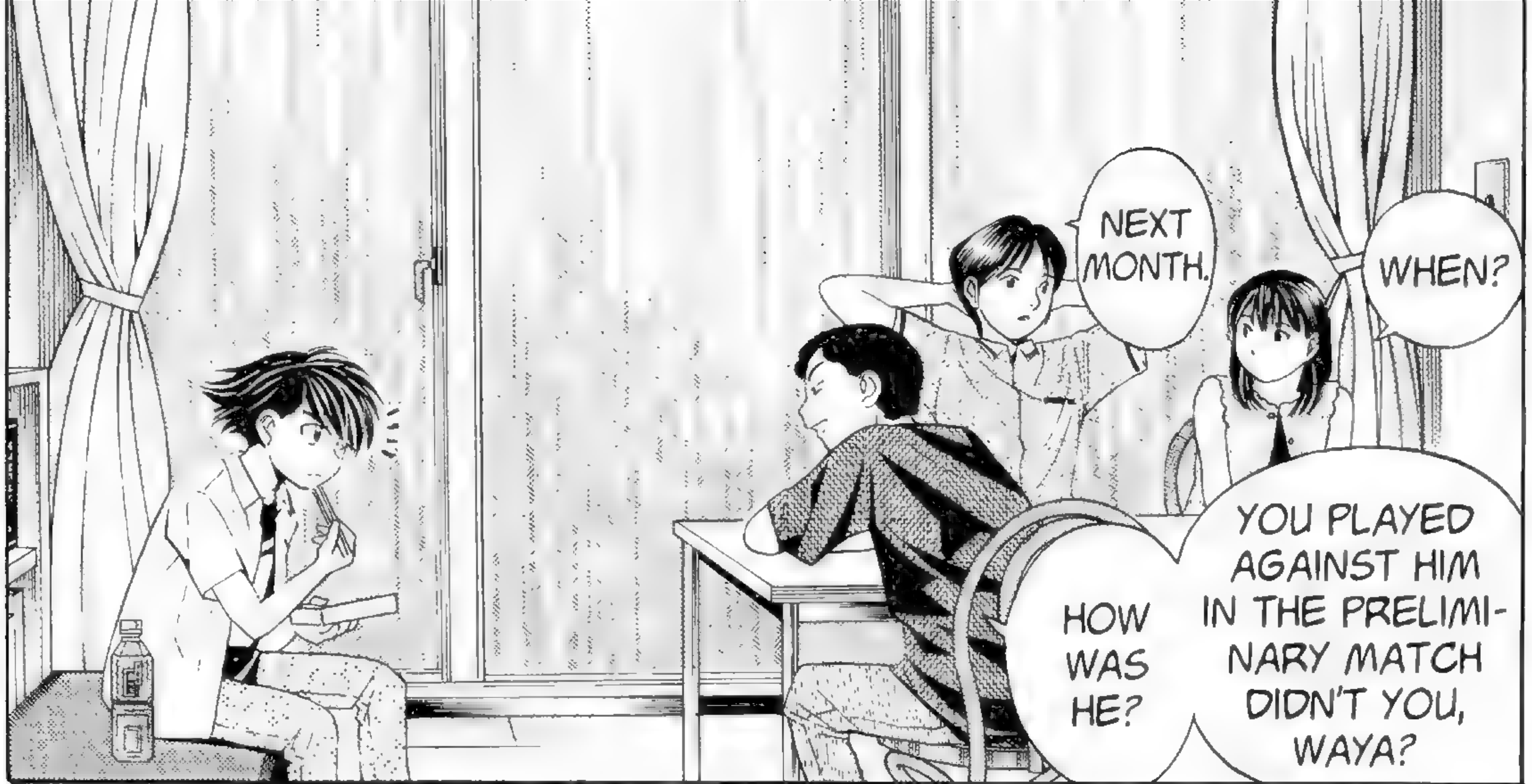
I'M  
LOOKING  
FORWARD  
TO  
PLAYING  
AGAINST  
HIM.

YEAH,  
ME  
TOO.

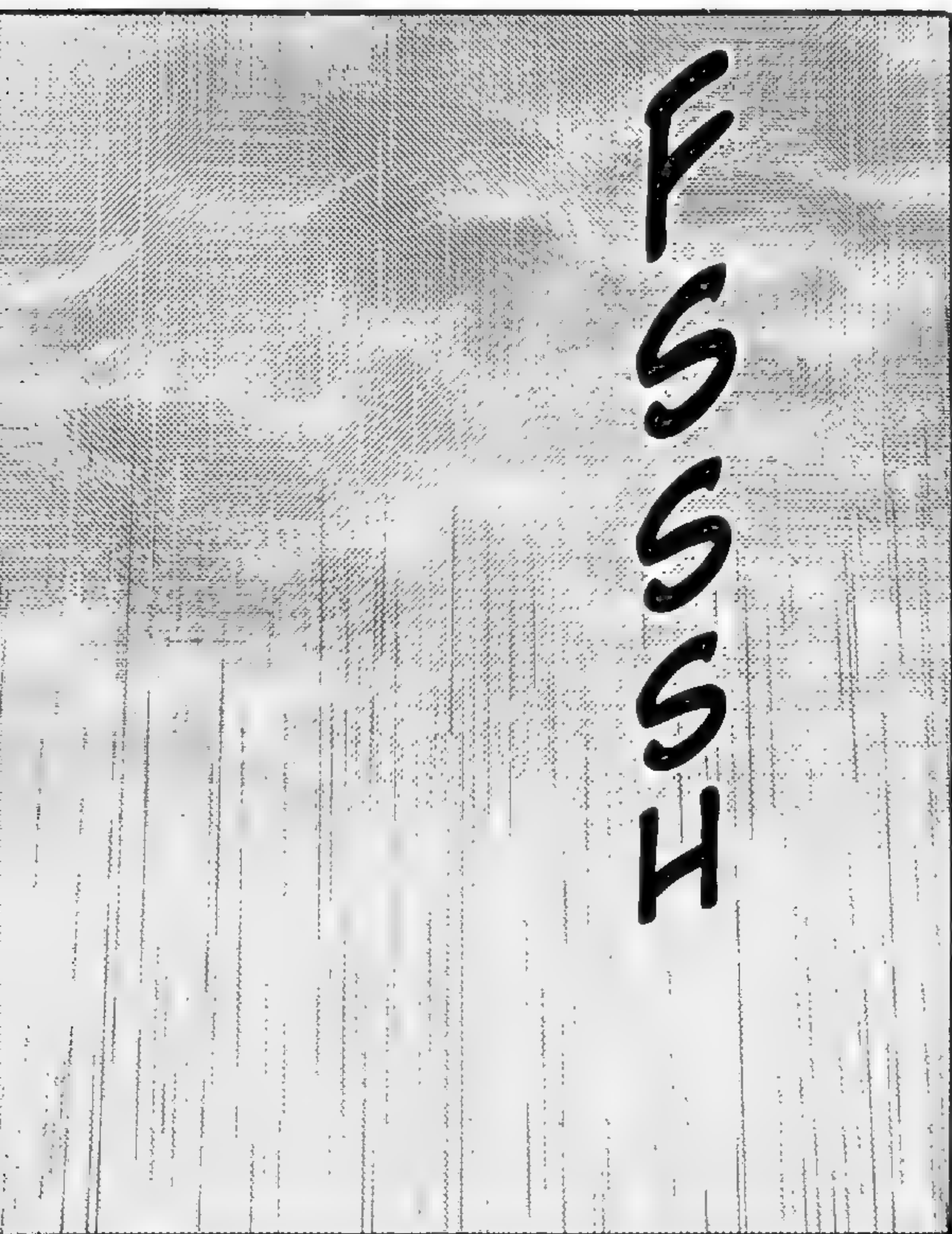
OF  
COURSE  
I'VE REALLY  
ONLY  
**HEARD**  
ABOUT HOW  
STRONG A  
PLAYER  
HE IS.

WHAT  
A  
SUR-  
PRISE.













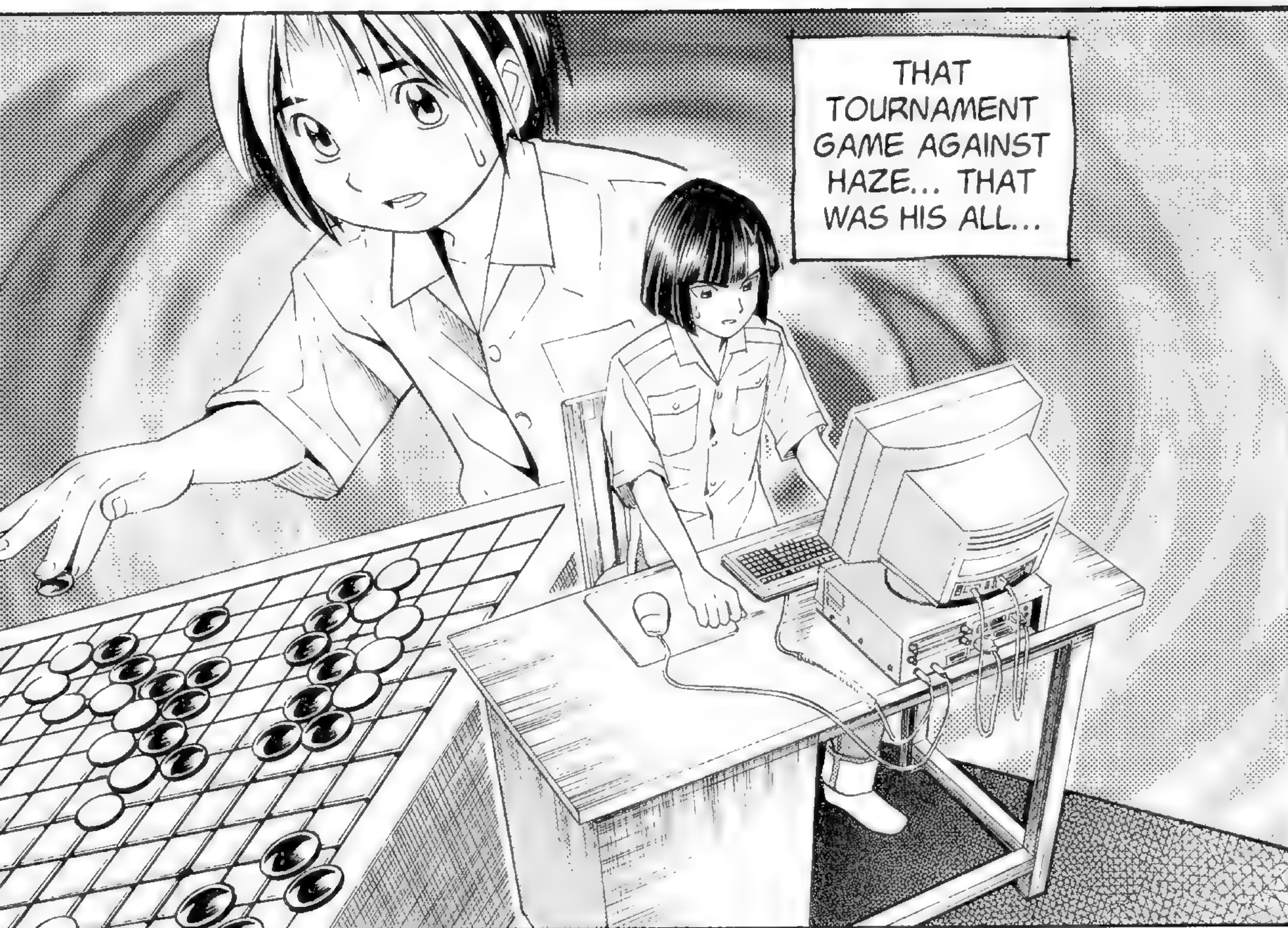




IT CAN'T  
BE HIM.



NO, IT'S  
NOT.



THAT  
TOURNAMENT  
GAME AGAINST  
HAZE... THAT  
WAS HIS ALL...



BUT WHY  
IS IT THAT  
NOW I FEEL  
LIKE I'VE  
FINALLY  
FOUND HIM?

I CHASED  
AND CHASED  
AFTER  
HIKARU  
SHINDO  
AND NEVER  
FOUND  
WHAT I WAS  
LOOKING  
FOR.





HE'S  
NOT A  
CHILD!

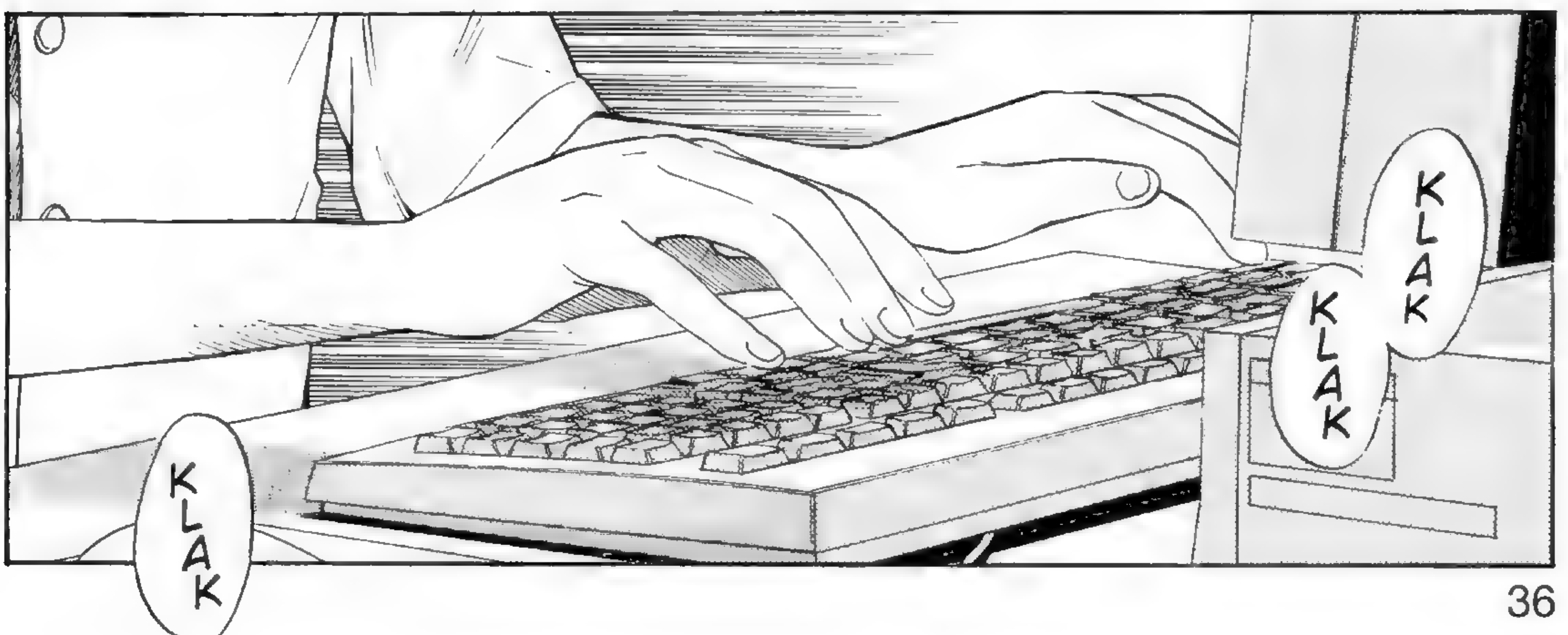
THIS  
ONE  
THAT  
HIDES  
IN THE  
DARK...



NO...

IT  
CAN'T  
BE.

IT'S NOT  
HIKARU...





IF YOU  
AREN'T  
HIKARU,  
THEN WHO  
COULD  
YOU  
POSSIBLY  
BE?



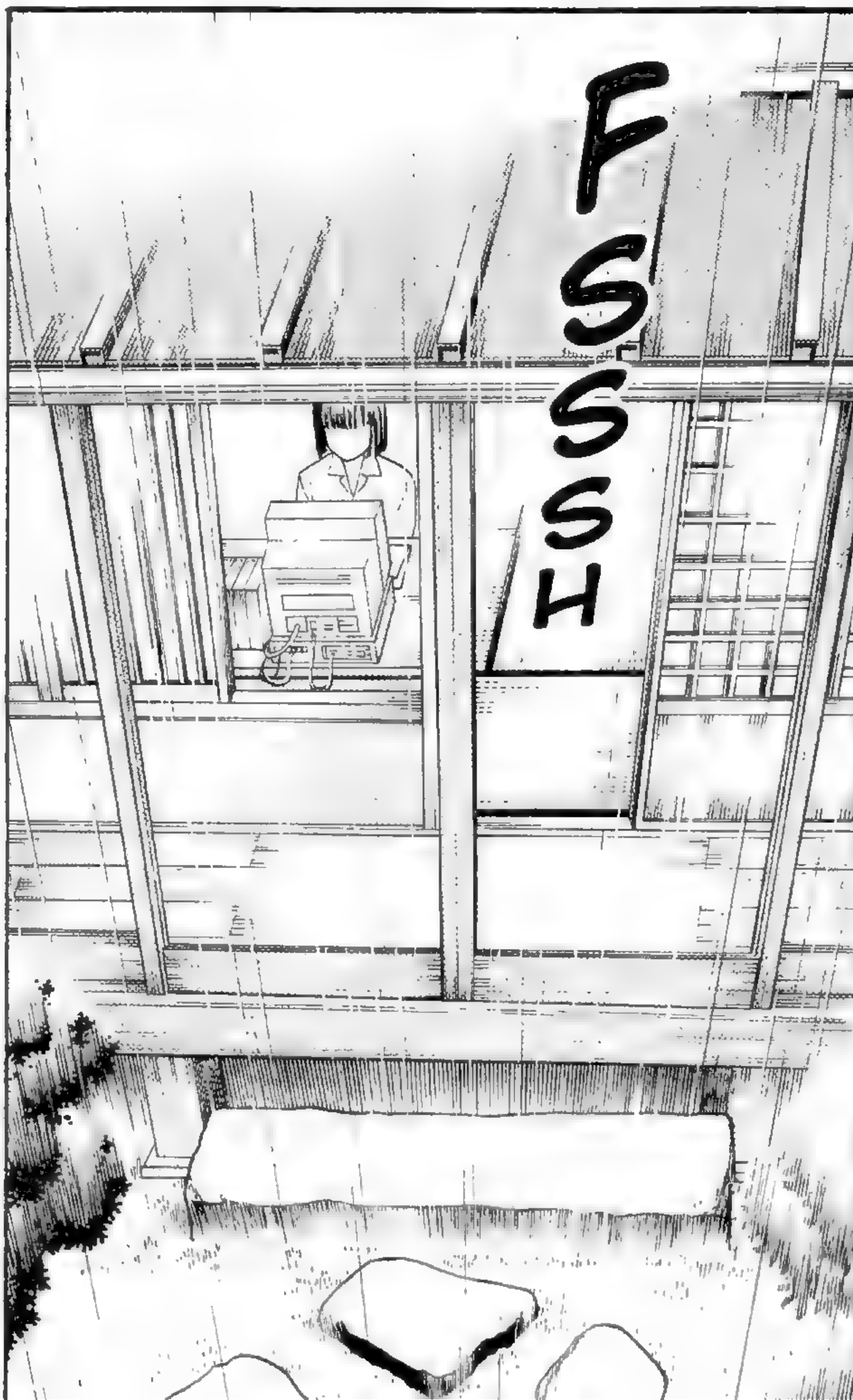
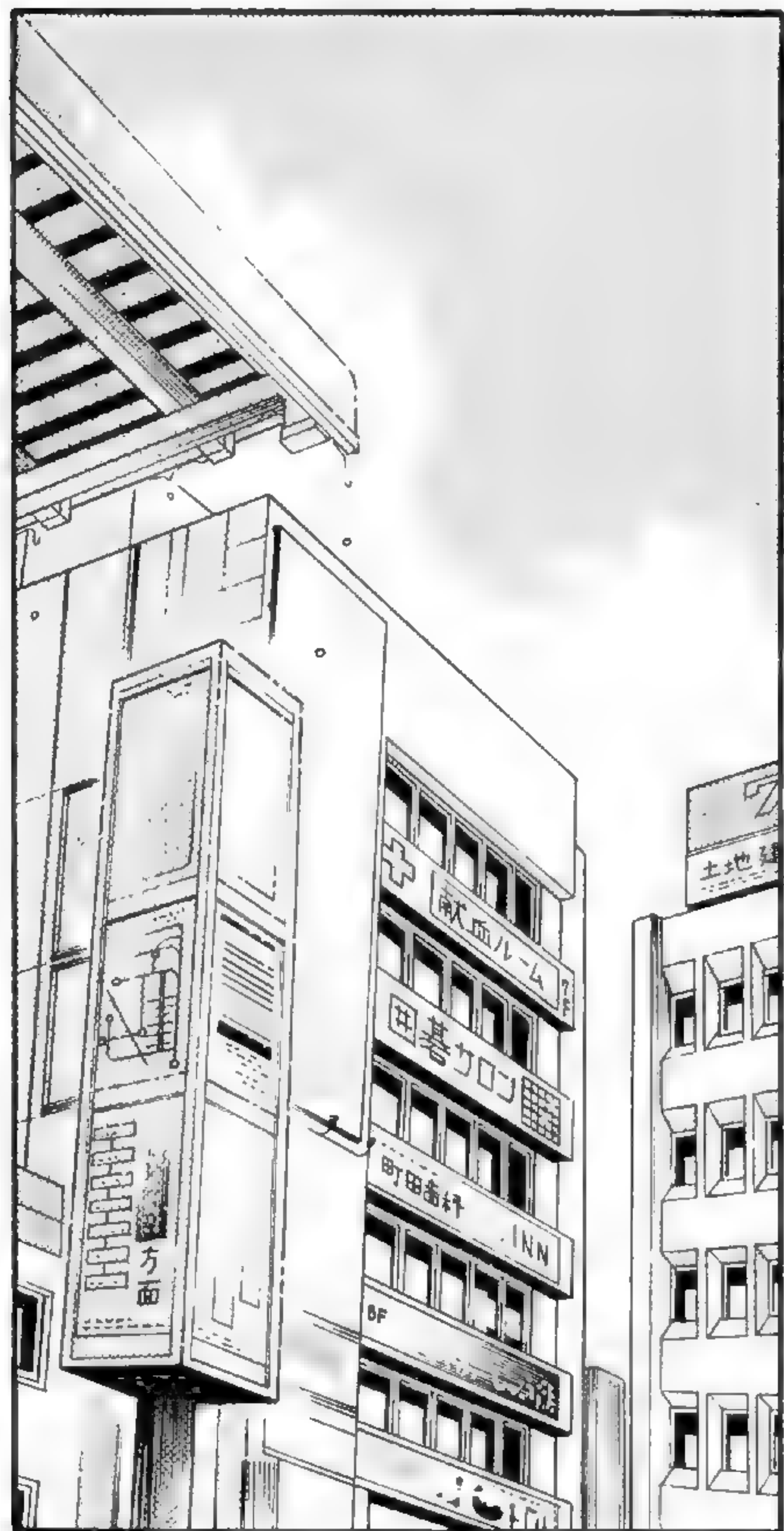
WHO?

WHO  
ARE  
YOU?

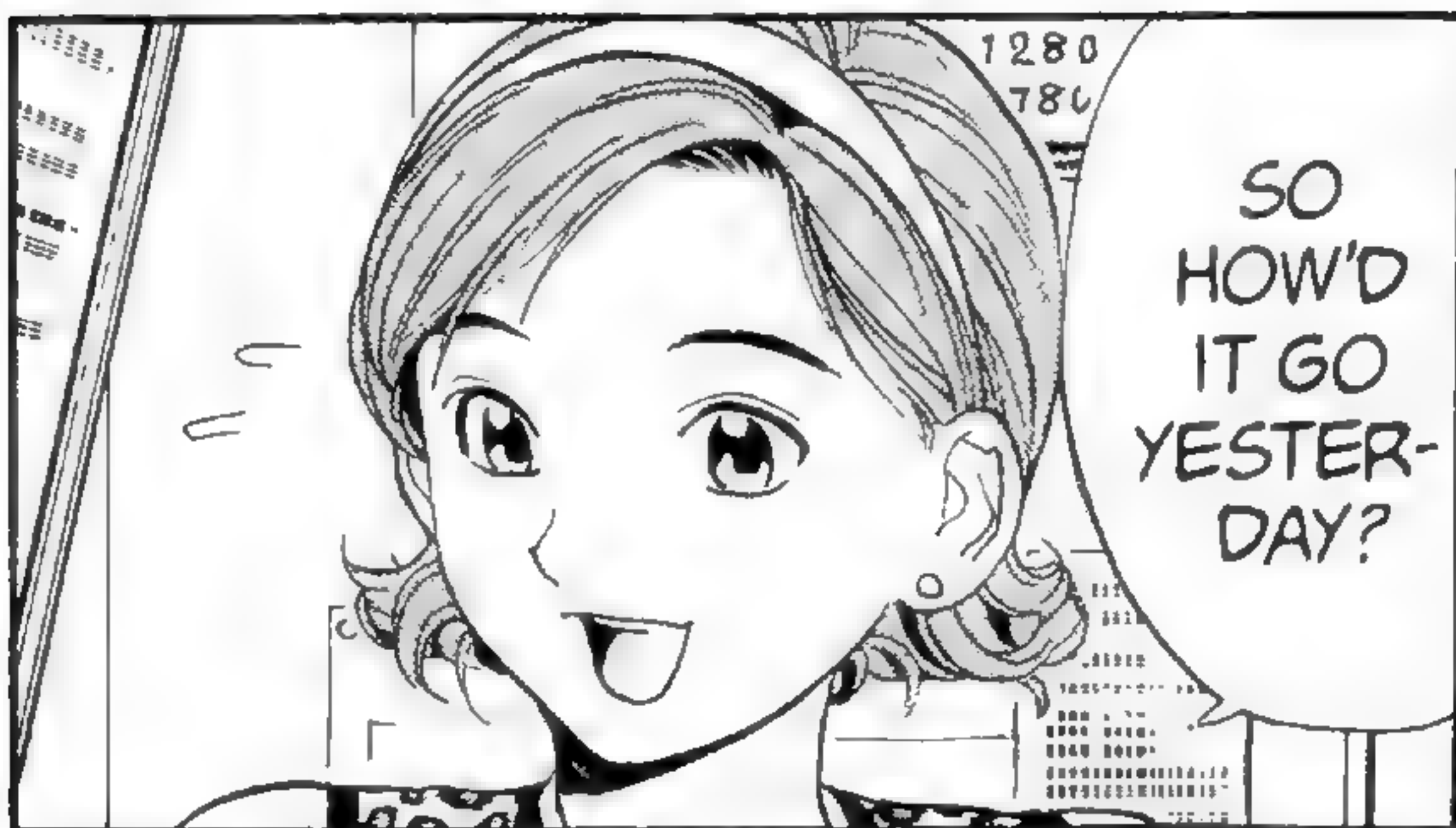
K  
L  
A  
K

HE'S  
GONE...

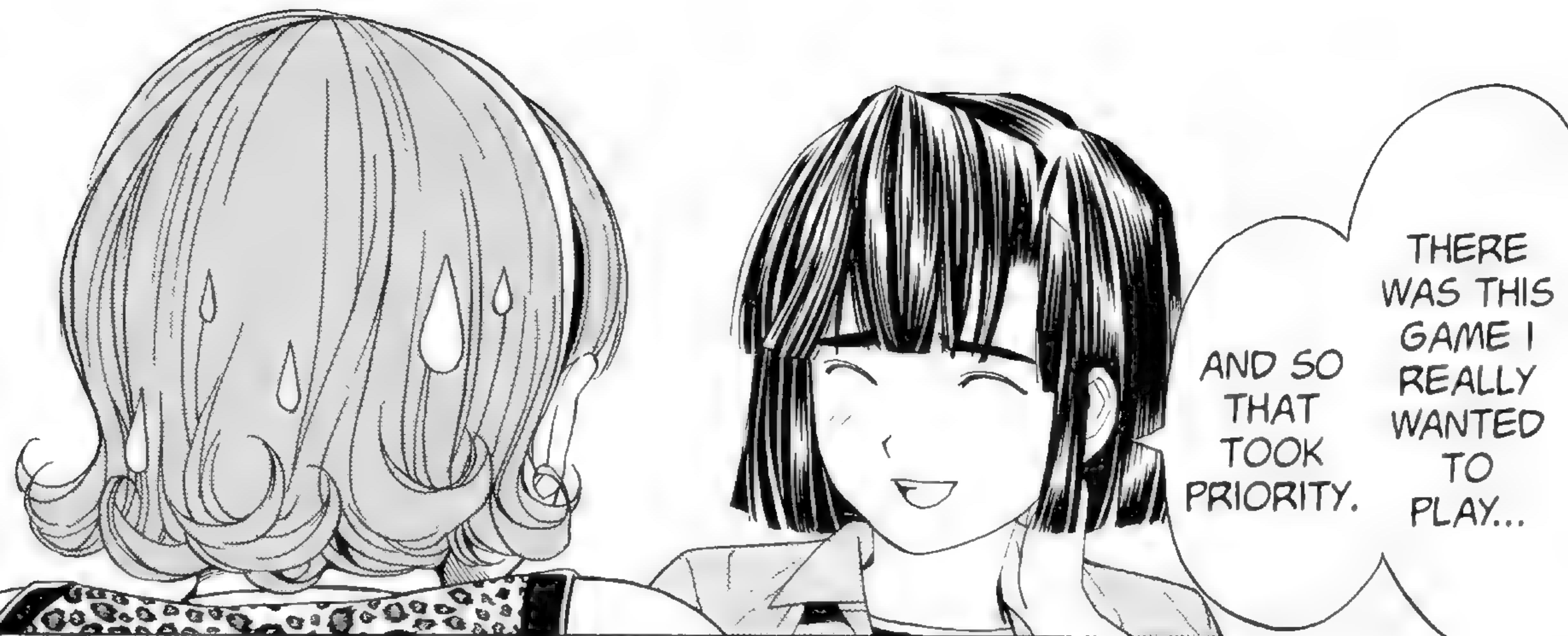
.....











AND SO  
THAT  
TOOK  
PRIORITY.

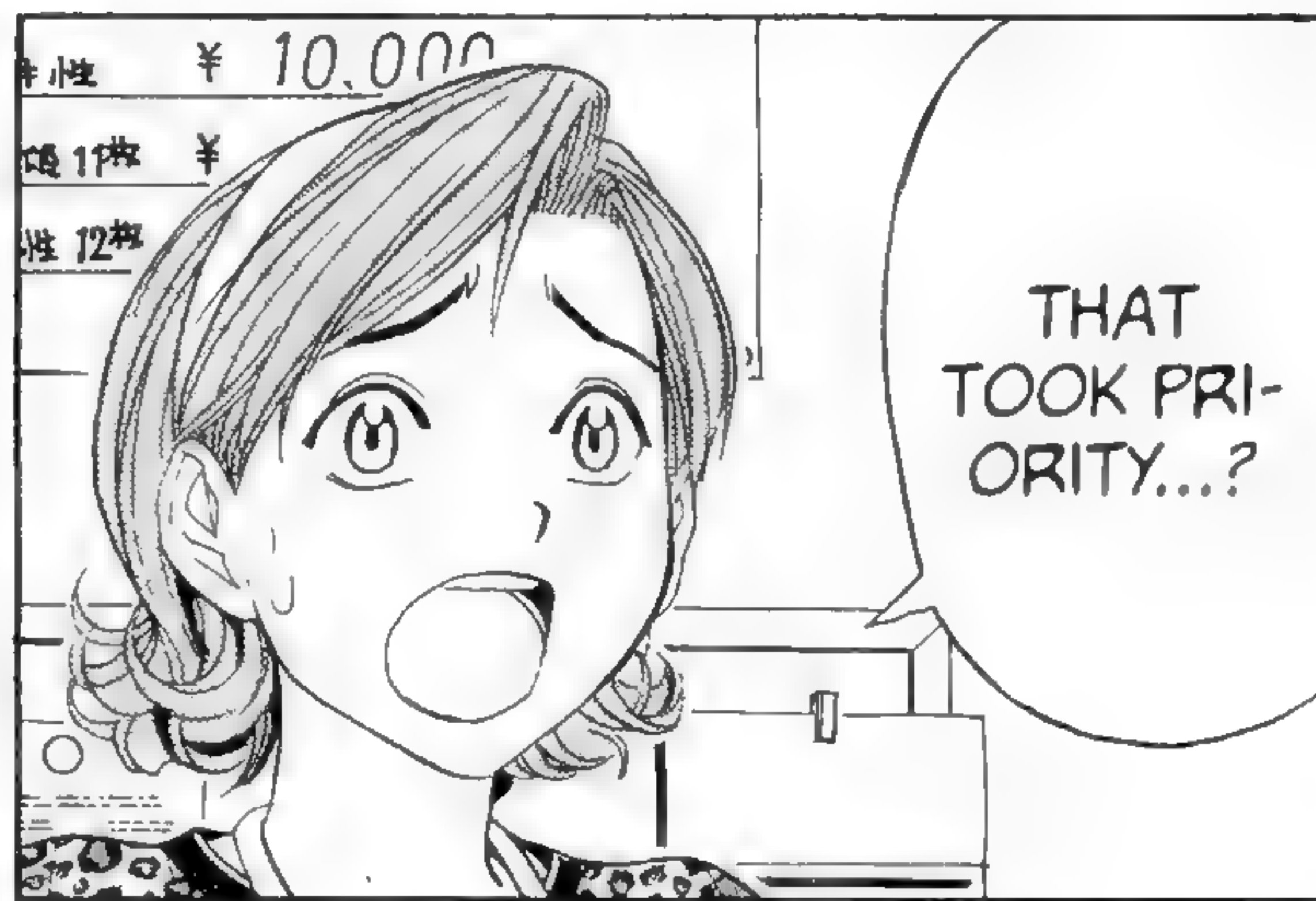
THERE  
WAS THIS  
GAME I  
REALLY  
WANTED  
TO  
PLAY...



I'LL SHOW  
UP TO THE  
SECOND  
GAME  
TOMOR-  
ROW.

.....

IS OGATA  
SENSEI  
COMING  
TODAY?



THAT  
TOOK PRI-  
ORITY...?



IT'LL  
BE  
OKAY.

DON'T  
WORRY,  
HARUMI.



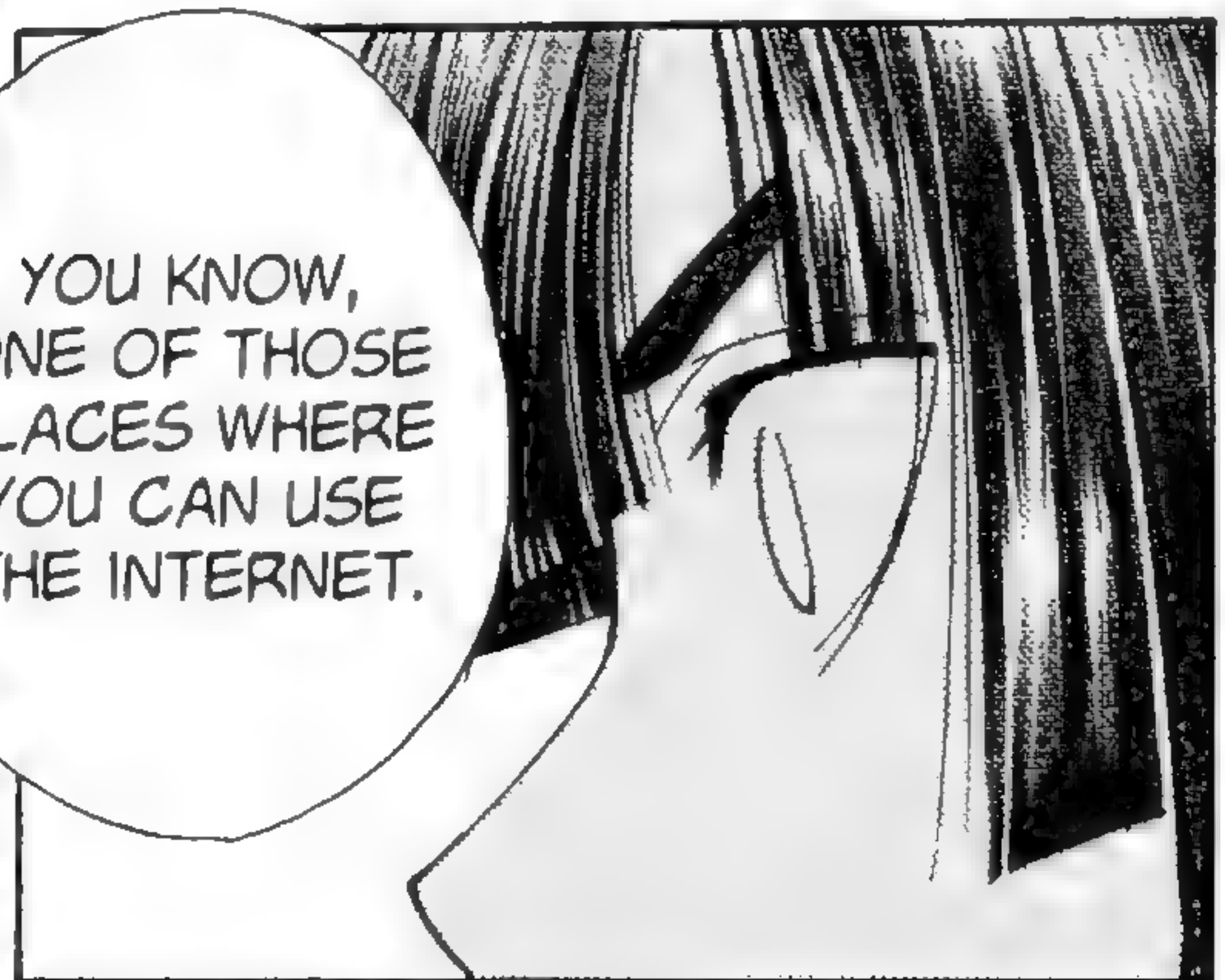
I WANTED  
HIM TO PLAY  
A GAME  
WITH ME...

SHF













...I CAN'T  
CONTINUE  
DENYING  
IT!

THIS  
ODD  
FEELING  
THAT I  
HAVE...



THERE'S  
JUST NO  
WAY!

BUT  
IT'S  
RIDICU-  
LOUS!



AFTER  
ALL...

BUT  
I JUST  
CAN'T HELP  
THINKING  
THAT IT  
MIGHT BE  
HIM.





FOR A  
MOMENT  
THEY WERE  
JUST LIKE  
HIKARU'S  
MOVES  
WHEN I  
FIRST  
PLAYED  
AGAINST  
HIM.

SAI'S  
MOVES...







HIKARU!



IS IT  
YOU?!



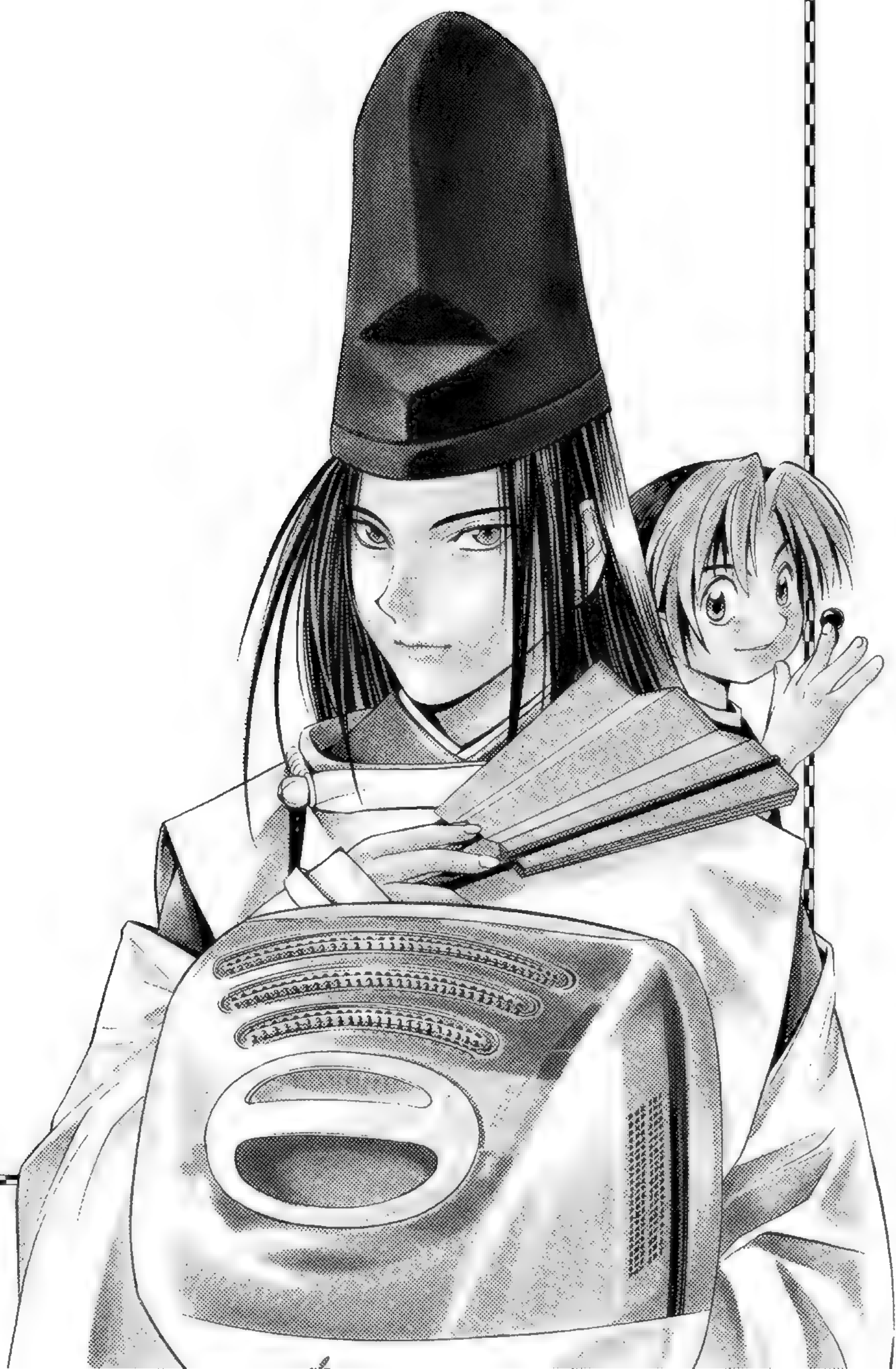
SLAM

COULD  
YOU  
REALLY  
BE SAI?!











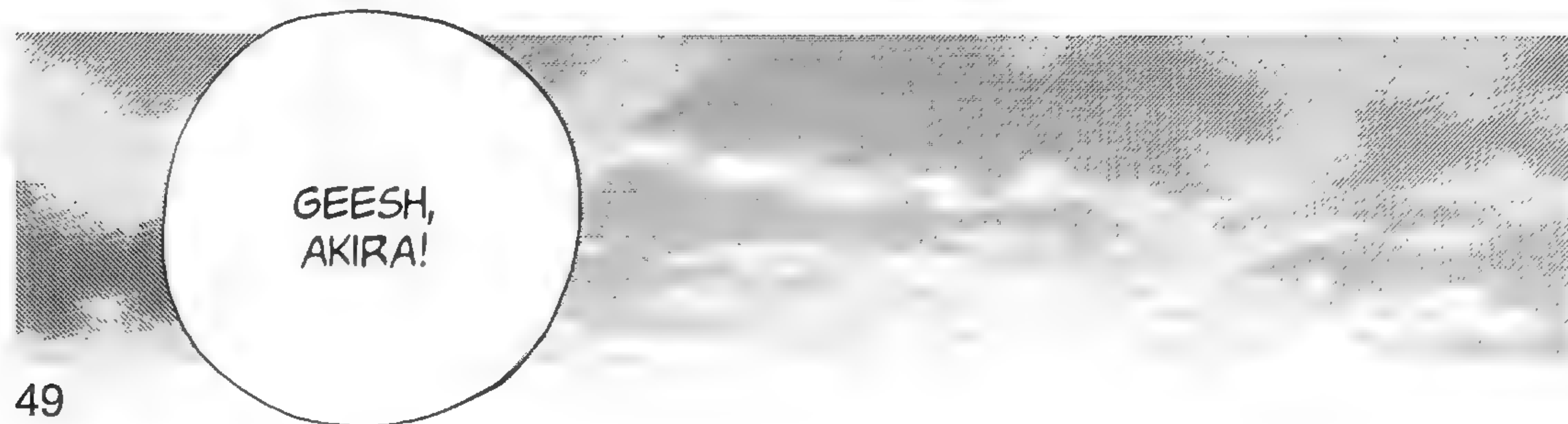
Game 37 "Second Semester"



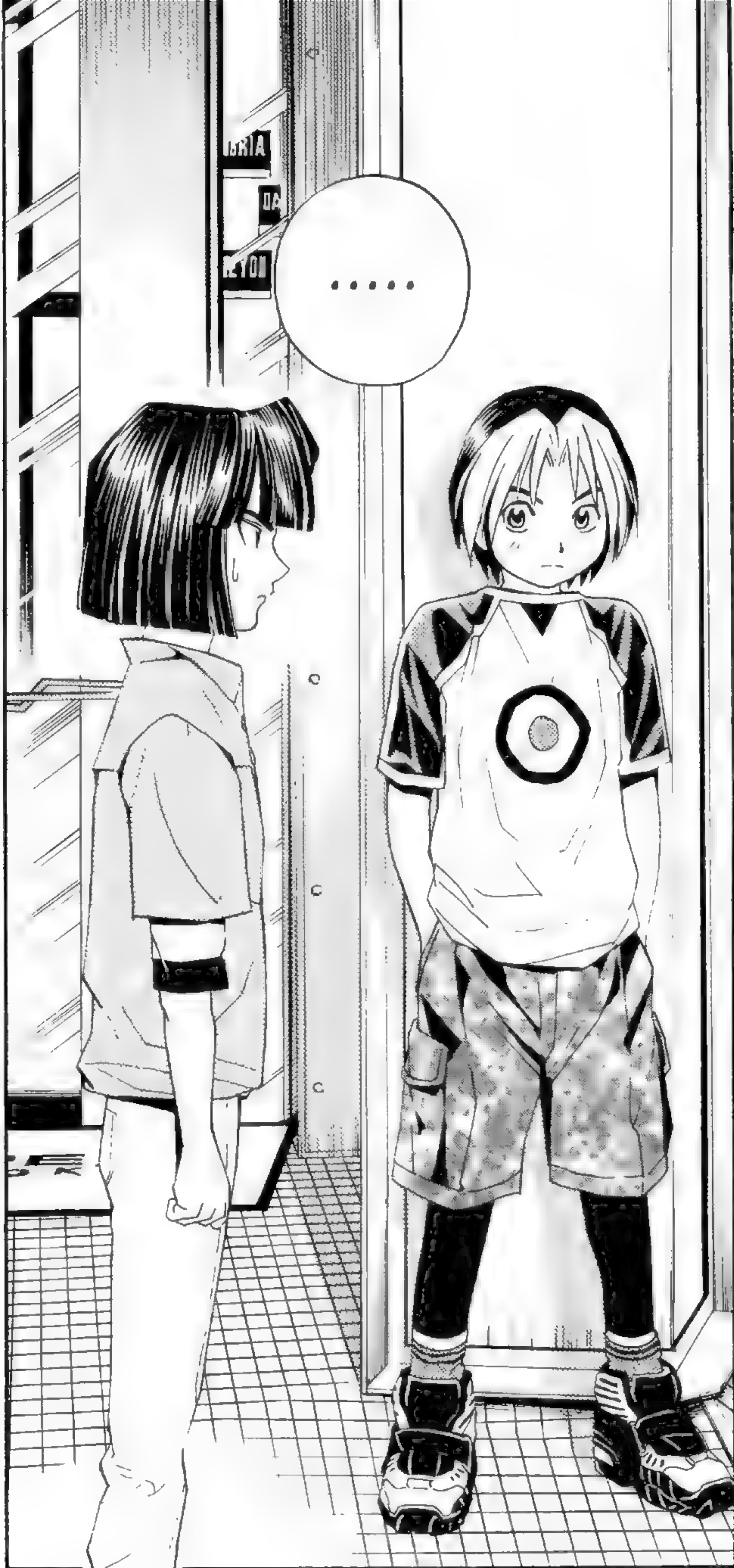




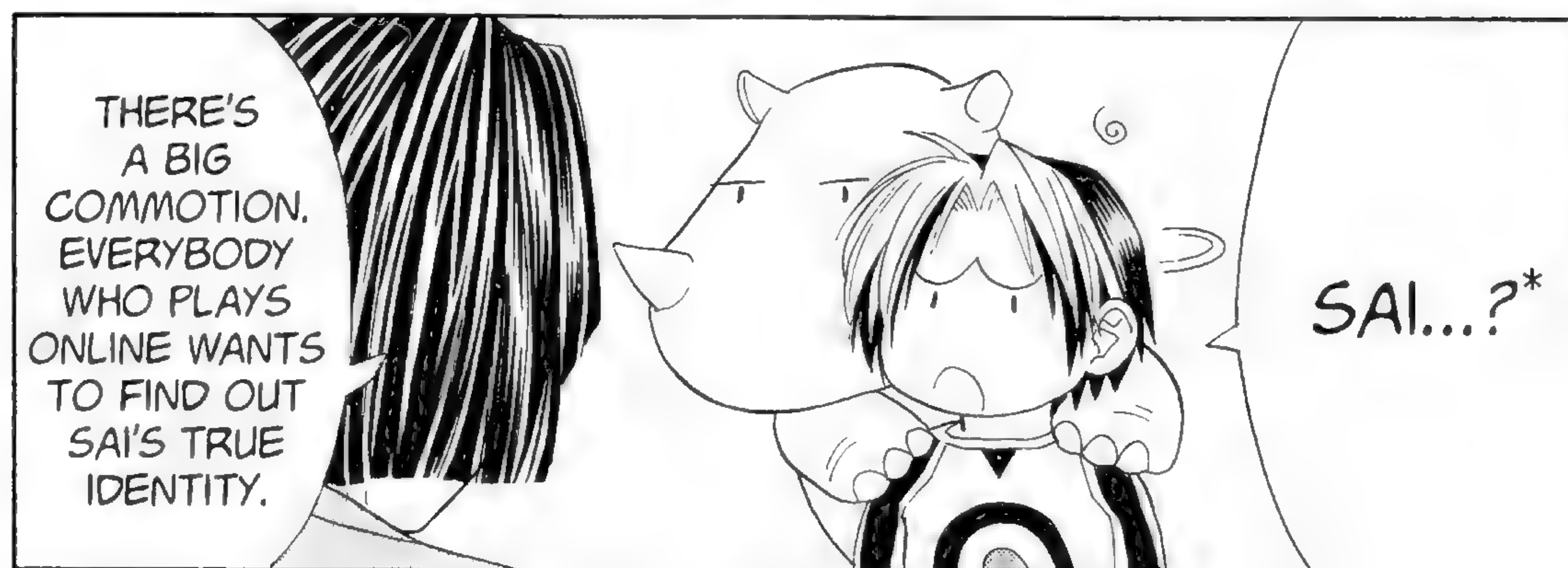












\*"SAI" IS JAPANESE FOR "RHINO."







AND YOU  
THOUGHT  
IT MIGHT  
BE ME?!

HA...

HA  
HA HA...

.....



I GUESS  
IT WOULD  
MAKE SENSE  
THAT YOU  
THINK IT'S  
ME.

WELL, I DID  
BEAT YOU  
AFTER ALL...  
HEH HEH  
HEH...

BUT YOU  
WERE NO  
MATCH FOR  
ME WHEN WE  
PLAYED EACH  
OTHER IN THE  
THIRD POSI-  
TIONS AT THE  
TOURNA-  
MENT.



RIDICULOUS!  
WHAT FOR?!

I LOST  
THAT  
ONE ON  
PURPOSE!





IF YOU  
WERE AS  
STRONG  
AS SAI...

WOULDN'T  
YOU?!

...YOU  
REALLY  
WOULD  
BECOME  
A PRO AND  
WIN A TITLE  
OR TWO...



THANKS FOR  
TAKING THE  
WORDS RIGHT  
OUT OF MY  
MOUTH.

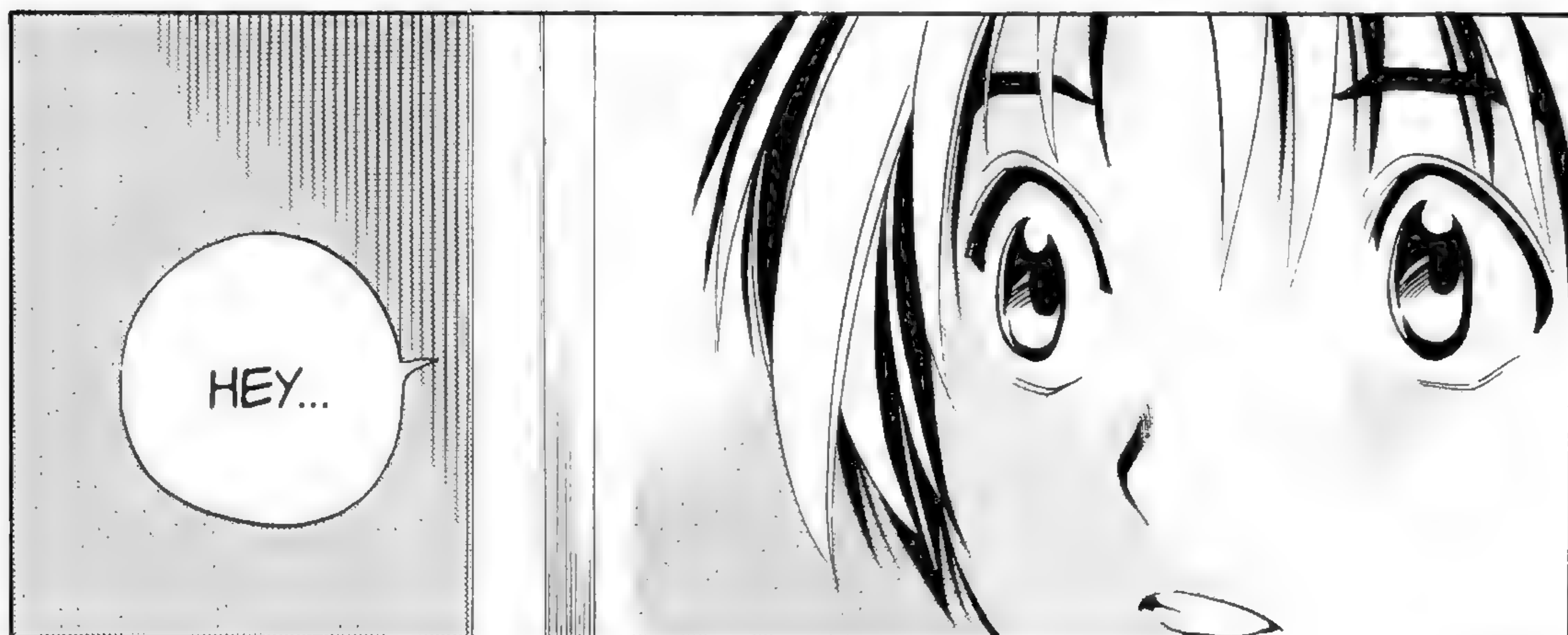


SO I WAS  
RIGHT.  
YOU'RE  
NOT SAI...



....

























I GUESS THAT'S  
IT. WE HAVE TO  
STOP PLAYING  
ONLINE, SAI.

SO  
THERE'S  
A BIG TO-  
DO ABOUT  
SAI'S TRUE  
IDENTITY.



I  
WON'T  
BE  
BACK...

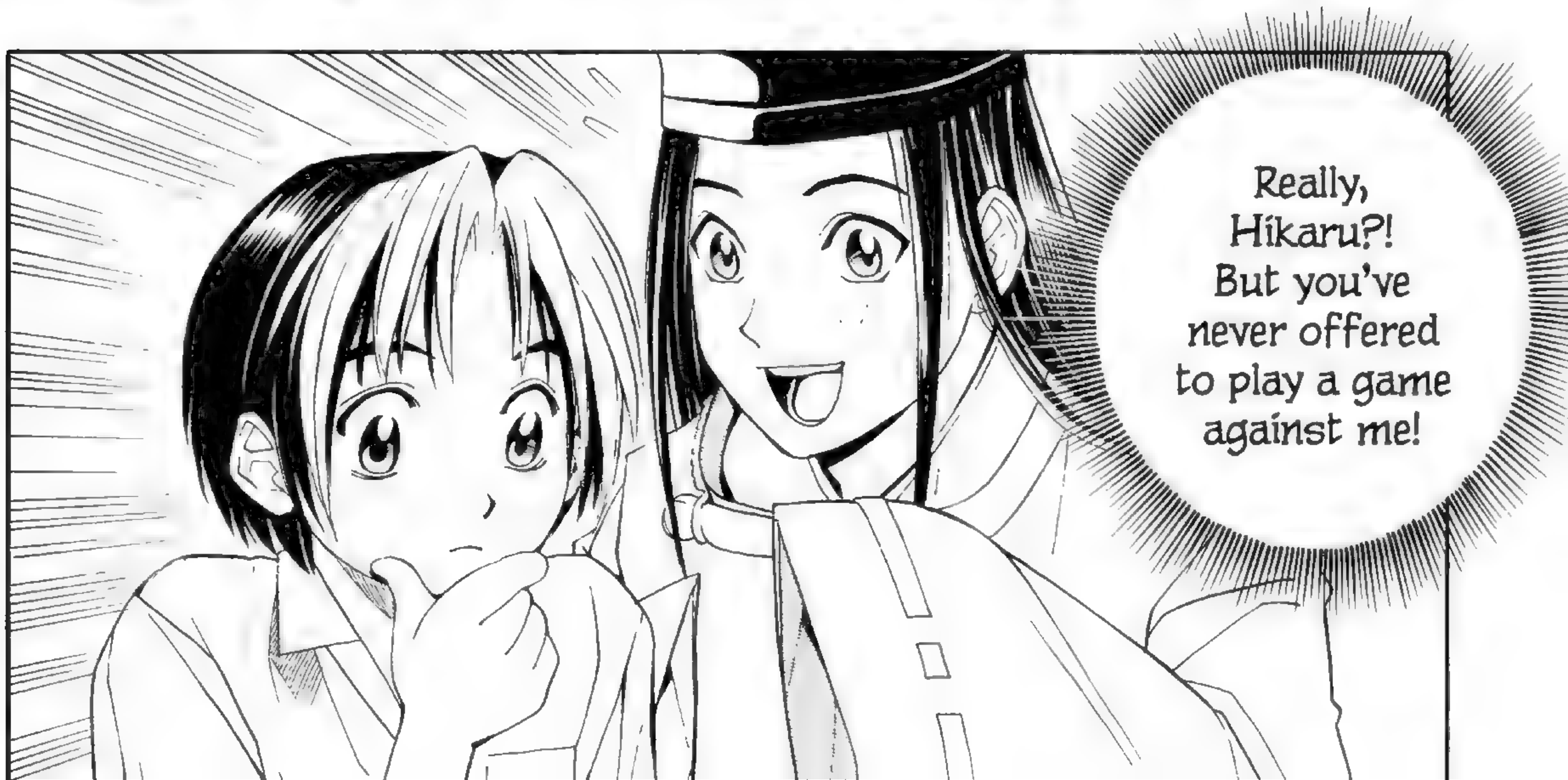
SUM-  
MER'S  
ALMOST  
OVER  
AND  
ALL...



THANKS  
FOR  
EVERY-  
THING.

HIKARU  
...?

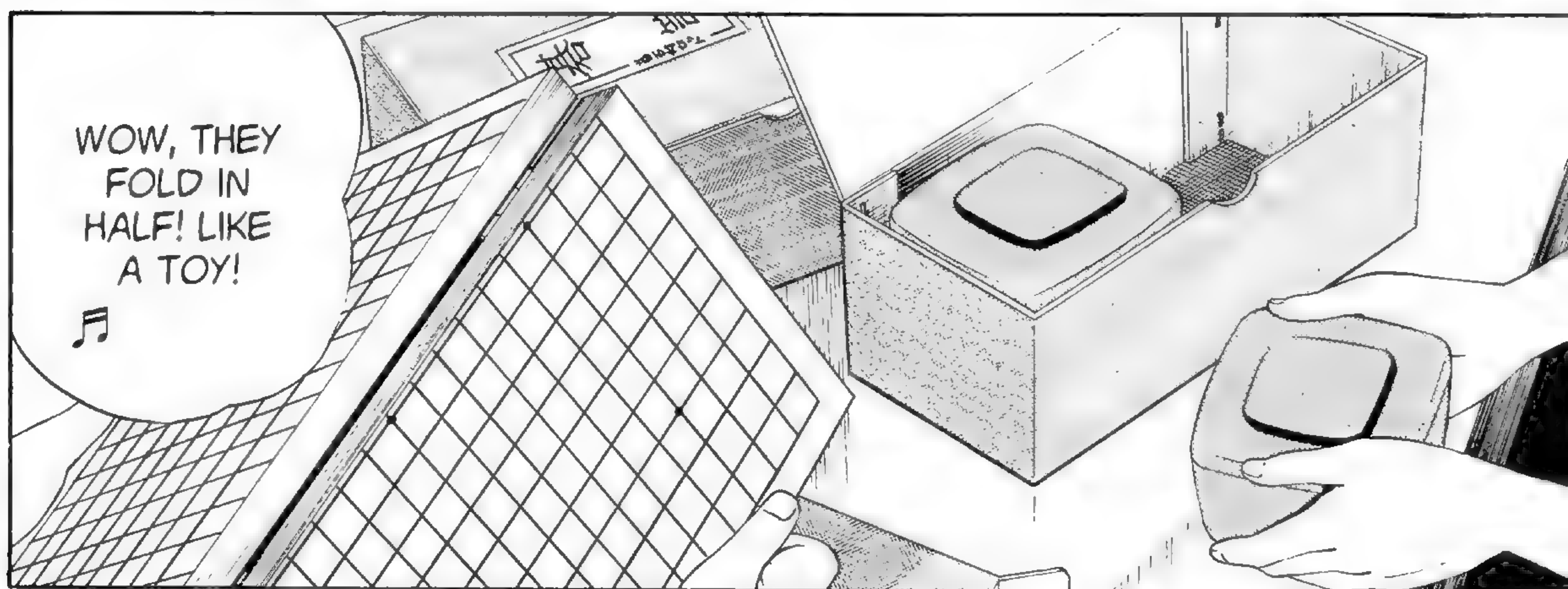




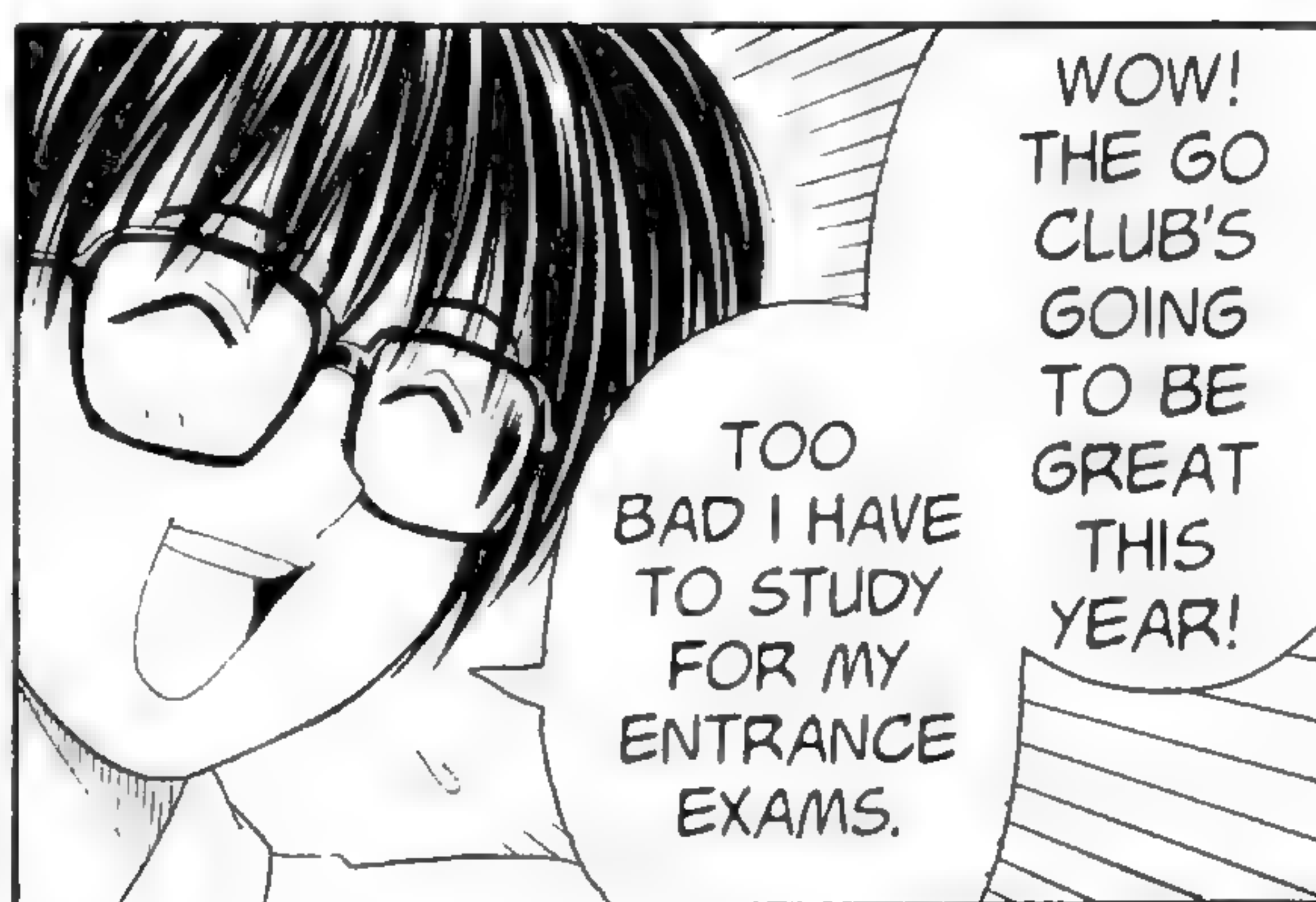








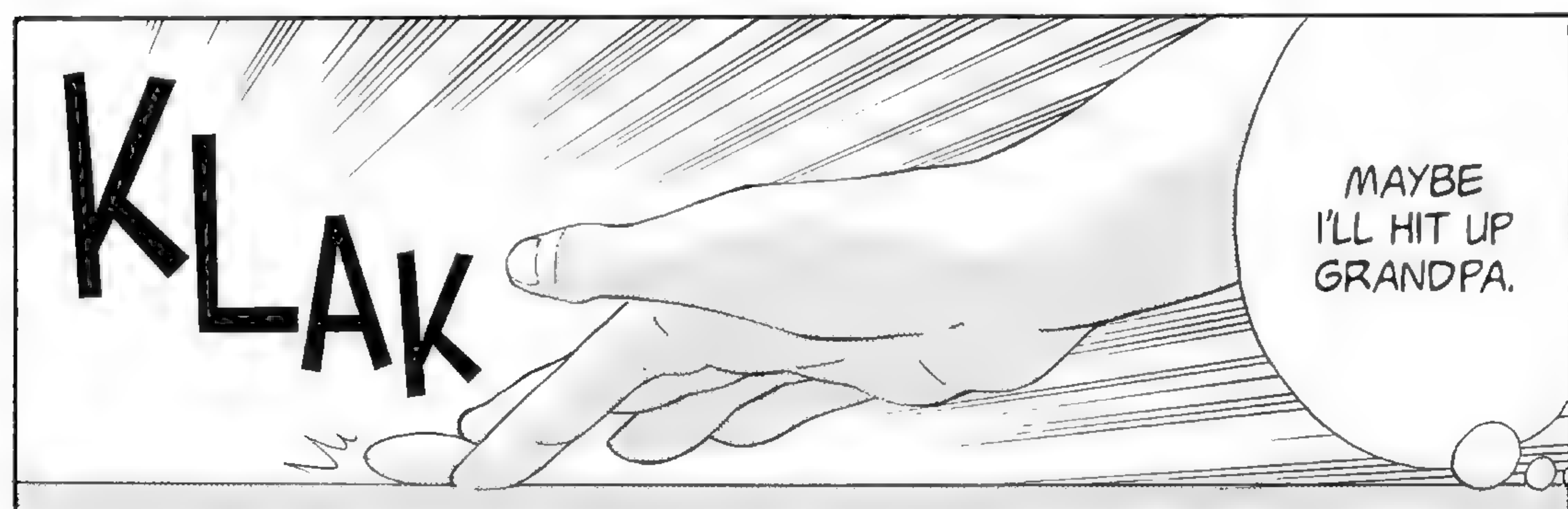








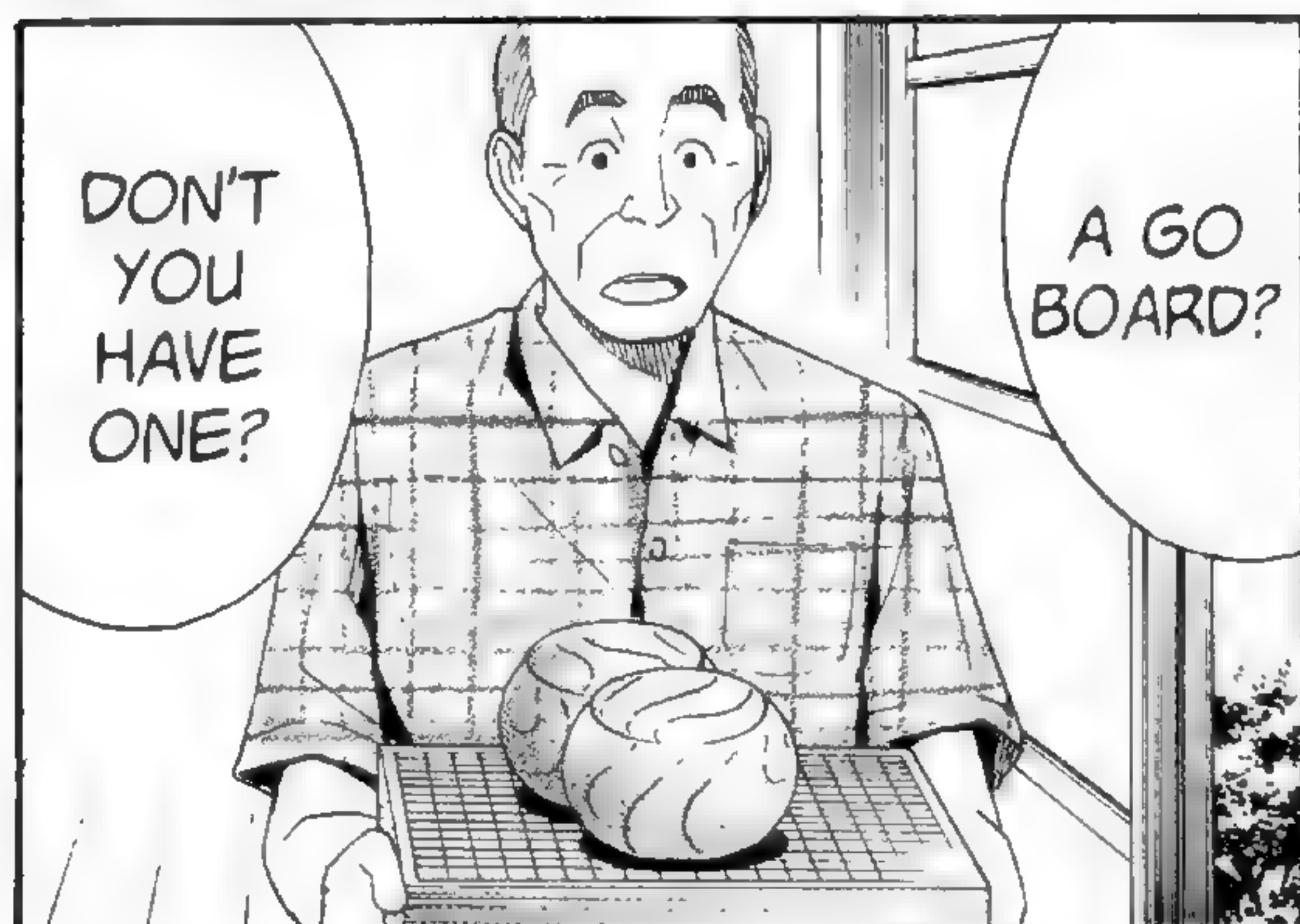
\*Approximately US \$100







\*Approximately US \$10











OH,  
THE ONE  
YOU FOUND  
BEFORE YOU  
PASSED OUT,  
THAT ONE'S  
NO GOOD.  
YOU CAN'T  
HAVE IT.

HEY  
GRANDPA,  
WHATEVER  
HAPPENED TO  
THAT OLD GO  
BOARD IN  
THE ATTIC?



IF YOU  
BEAT ME  
IN AN EVEN  
MATCH,  
THEN I'LL  
EVEN GIVE  
YOU  
THIS GO  
BOARD!



ARGH!  
DON'T YOU  
KNOW QUAL-  
ITY WHEN  
YOU SEE  
IT?!

BLEH!  
THIS  
ONE'S  
SO  
OLD!



BUT WHY?

I don't  
really want  
a Go board  
with blood  
stains  
anyway...

NO GOOD?



IT'S  
SUPPOSEDLY  
HAUNTED BY  
A GHOST THAT  
WEARS ONE  
OF THOSE  
LONG BLACK  
EBOSHI HATS.



# A WORD ABOUT HIKARU NO GO

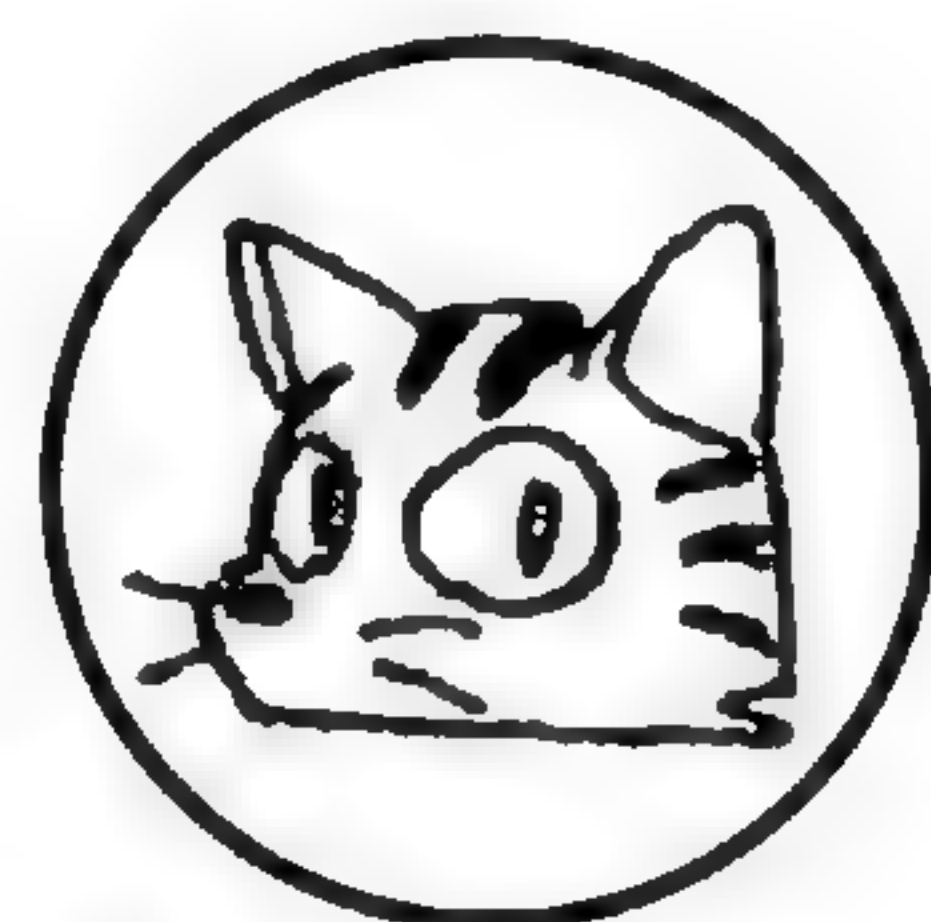
JUMP'S OFFICIAL WEBSITE



AKIRA TOTALLY THOUGHT THAT HIKARU WAS PLAYING GO ONLINE. "WHAT? WHAT *IS* THIS?!" IT SEEMS AKIRA DOESN'T KNOW ABOUT SHONEN JUMP.

YOU CAN SEE THE HOME PAGE THAT HIKARU WAS LOOKING AT — JUMP'S OFFICIAL JAPANESE WEBSITE, POP WEB JUMP — AT THE FOLLOWING URL:  
[HTTP://JUMP.SHUEISHA.CO.JP](http://jump.shueisha.co.jp)

CHECK OUT THE OFFICIAL WEBSITE FOR THE U.S. VERSION OF SHONEN JUMP AT  
[HTTP://WWW.SHONENJUMP.COM](http://www.shonenjump.com)





Game 38: "A Thousand Years of Selfishness"

BUT IT'S  
JUST A  
*RUMOR*,  
YOU SEE.

HAUNTED  
BY A  
GHOST  
WITH A  
BLACK  
EBOSHI  
HAT...?

FINE... I'M  
THE ONLY  
ONE IN THE  
FAMILY WHO  
PLAYS GO...

AND IT  
LOOKS LIKE  
IT'S OF GOOD  
QUALITY.  
I'LL HAVE IT  
EXORCISED  
AND KEEP IT  
STORED  
HERE.

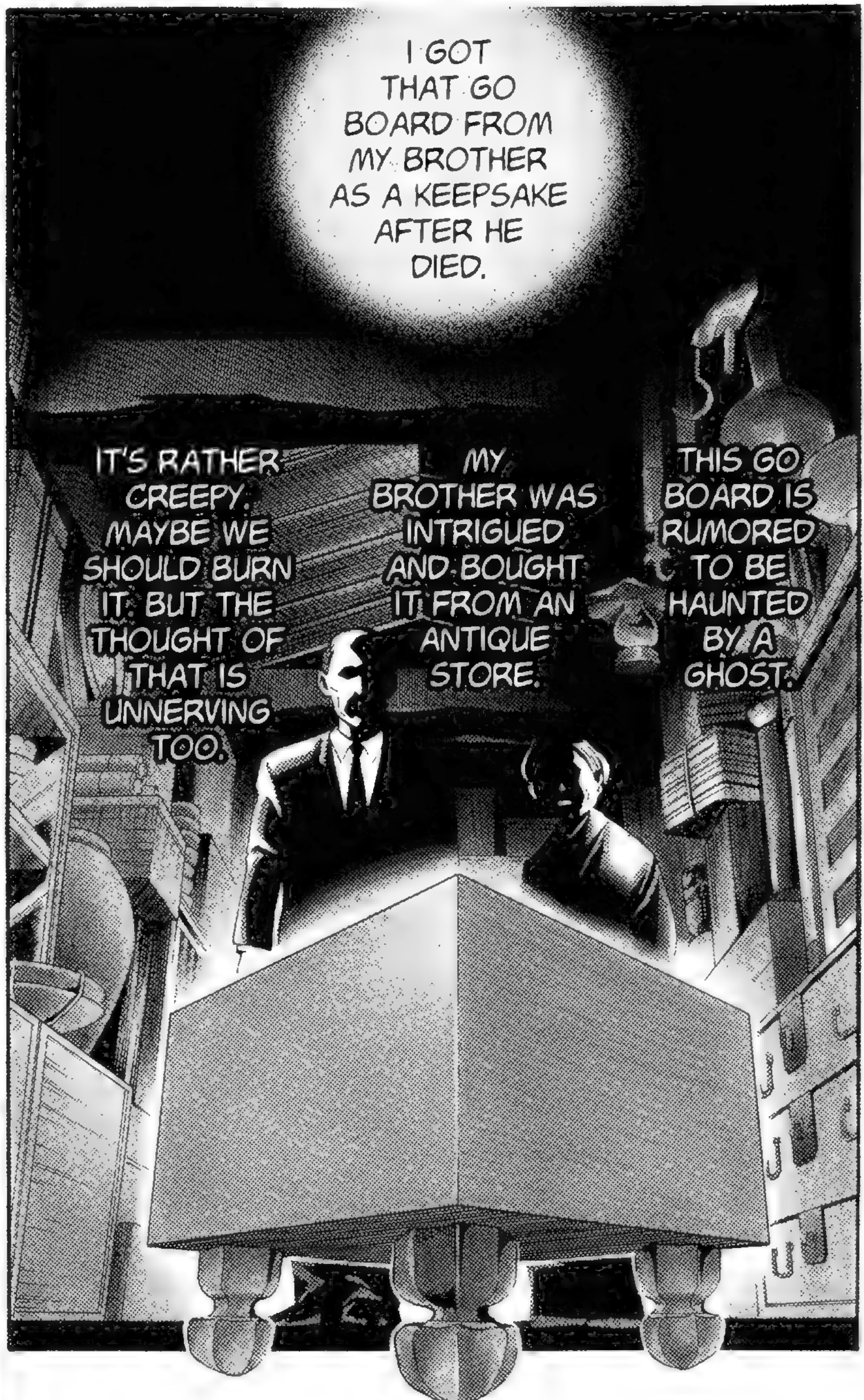
IN TIME  
THE  
GHOST  
WILL  
LEAVE...

I GOT  
THAT GO  
BOARD FROM  
MY BROTHER  
AS A KEEPSAKE  
AFTER HE  
DIED.

IT'S RATHER  
CREEPY.  
MAYBE WE  
SHOULD BURN  
IT. BUT THE  
THOUGHT OF  
THAT IS  
UNNERVING  
TOO.

MY  
BROTHER WAS  
INTRIGUED  
AND BOUGHT  
IT FROM AN  
ANTIQUE  
STORE.

THIS GO  
BOARD IS  
RUMORED  
TO BE  
HAUNTED  
BY A  
GHOST.







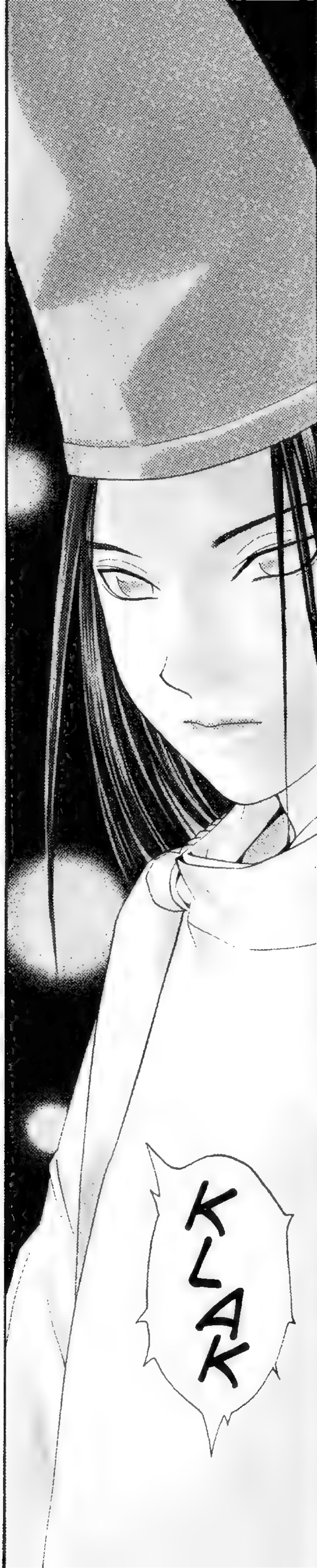


# Game 38

## "A Thousand Years of Selfishness"







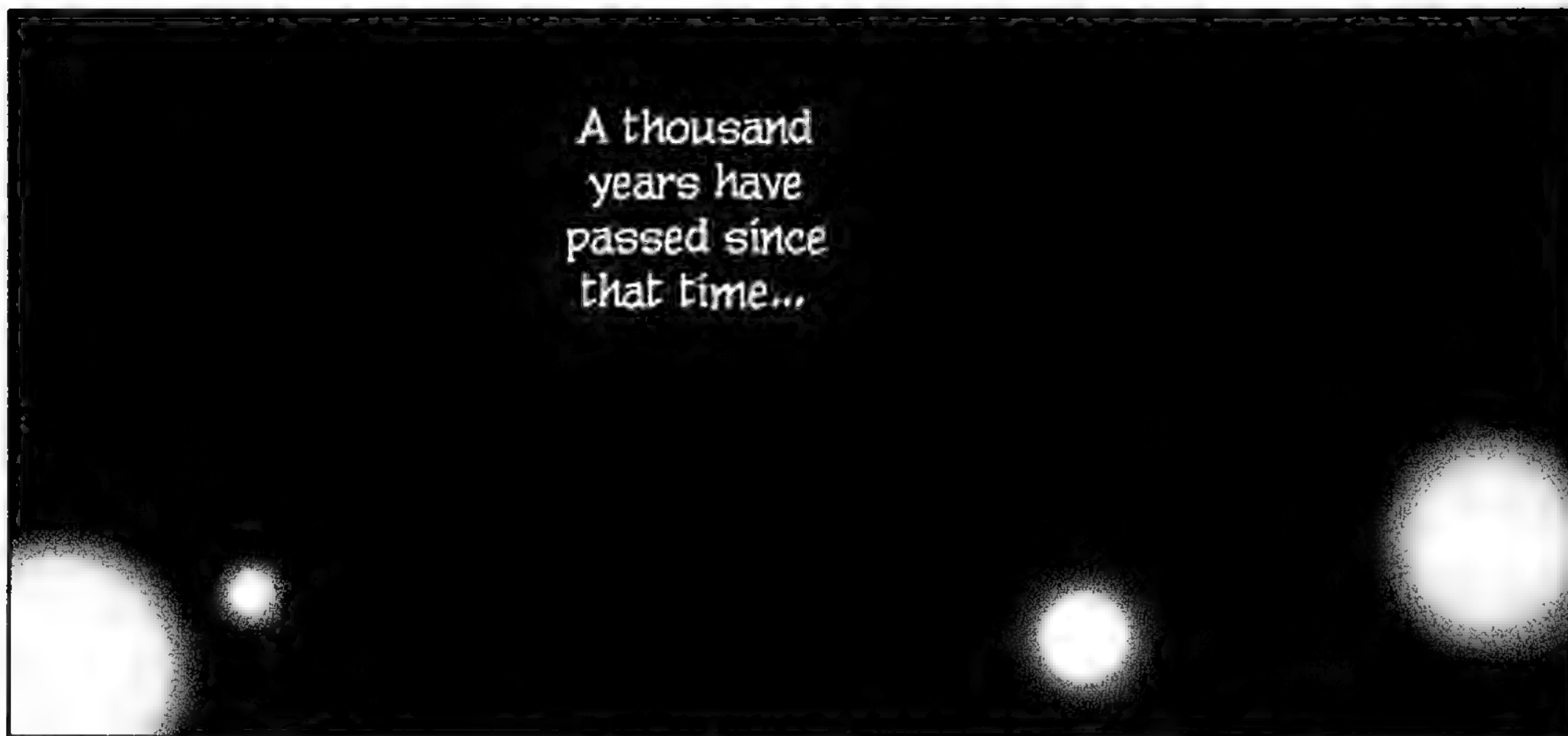
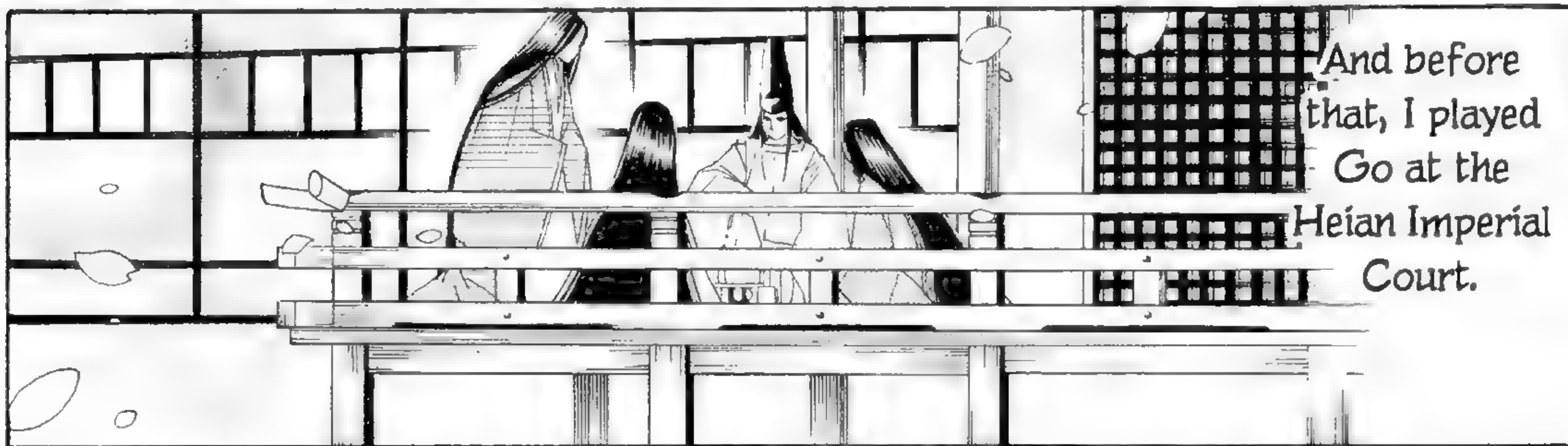
KLAK







\*Hon'inbo Shusaku's childhood name











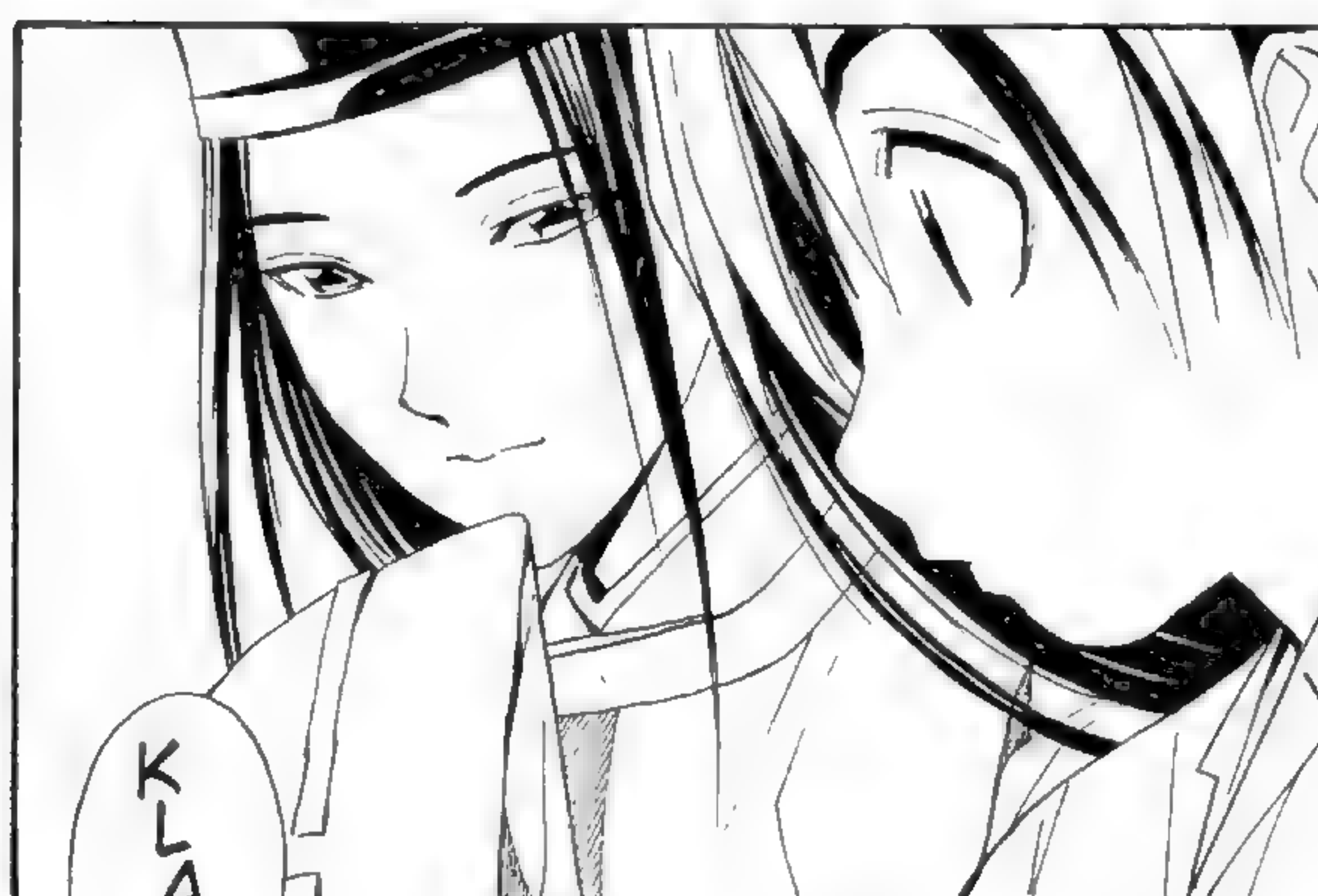
How much  
longer will  
I be able to  
indulge in my  
selfishness?

And I still  
sit before the  
Go board.



SO HOW  
ARE THINGS  
WITH YOUR  
GO CLUB?

K  
L  
A  
K



K  
L  
A  
K





THERE'S THIS  
KID NAMED YUKI.  
HE'S A FIRST YEAR  
LIKE ME, BUT HE'S  
A STRONG PLAYER.  
AND THERE'S A  
THIRD YEAR NAMED  
KIMIHIRO. HE'S REAL  
NICE AND TEACHES  
ME ABOUT GO  
PROBLEMS.

IT'S FUN!  
INCLUDING ME,  
THERE ARE  
ONLY THREE  
MEMBERS...



AKARI  
JOINED?

OH, YEAH!  
AKARI JOINED  
THE GO  
CLUB TOO,  
GRANDPA!

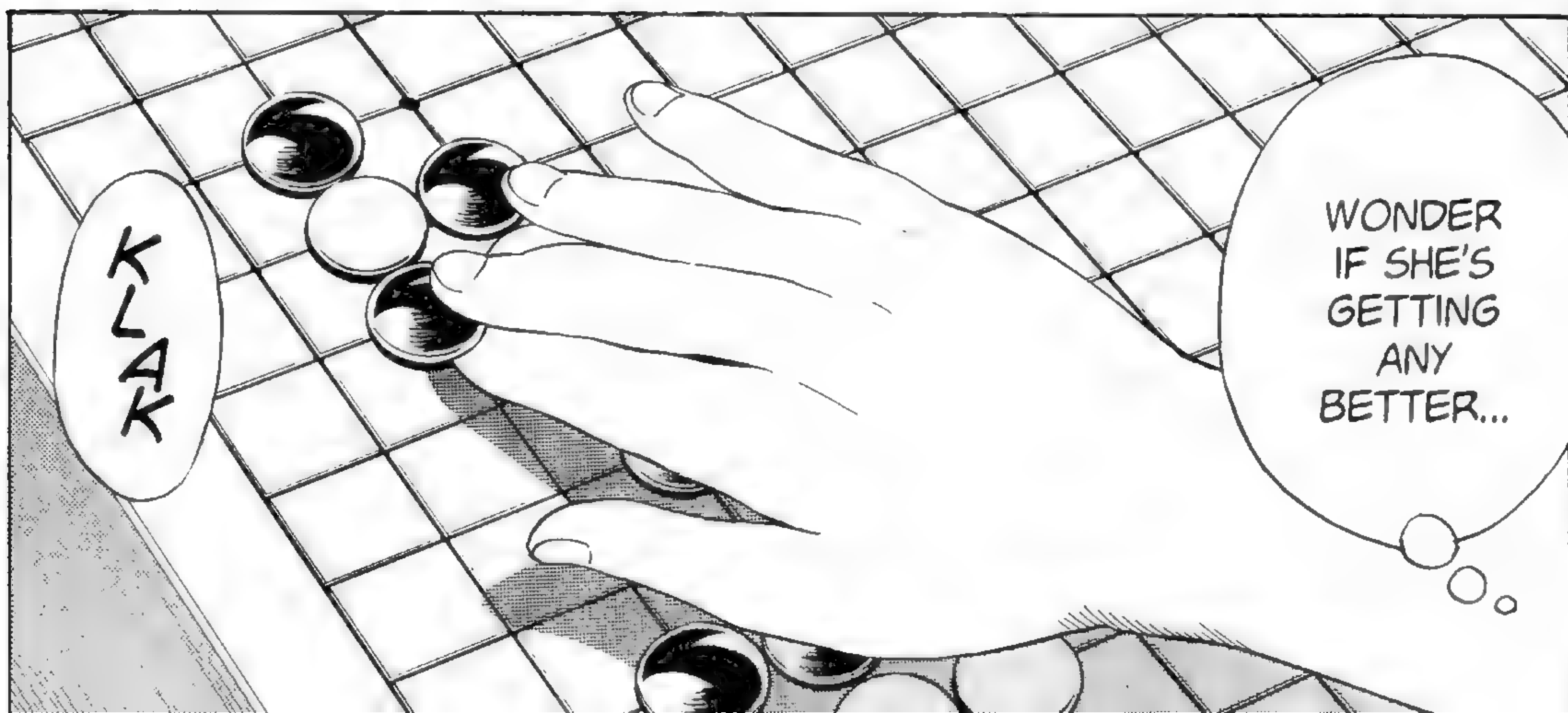


HEH HEH!  
SOUNDS  
LIKE FUN.

BUT NOW  
I'M GOOD  
ENOUGH  
TO BEAT  
KIMIHIRO!



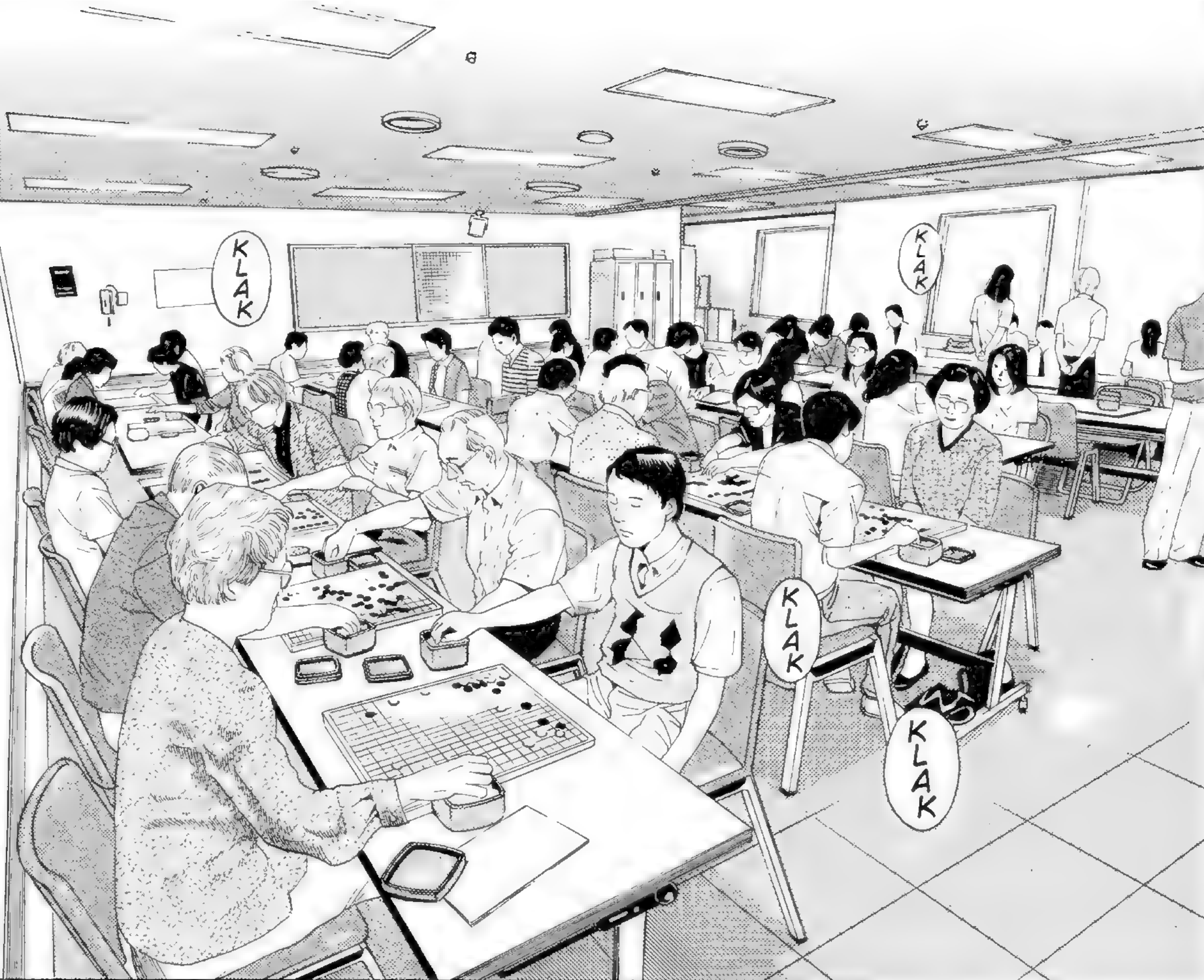
AND SHE  
STARTED  
TAKING THAT  
GO CLASS  
THAT I USED  
TO GO TO.



K  
L  
A  
K

WONDER  
IF SHE'S  
GETTING  
ANY  
BETTER...









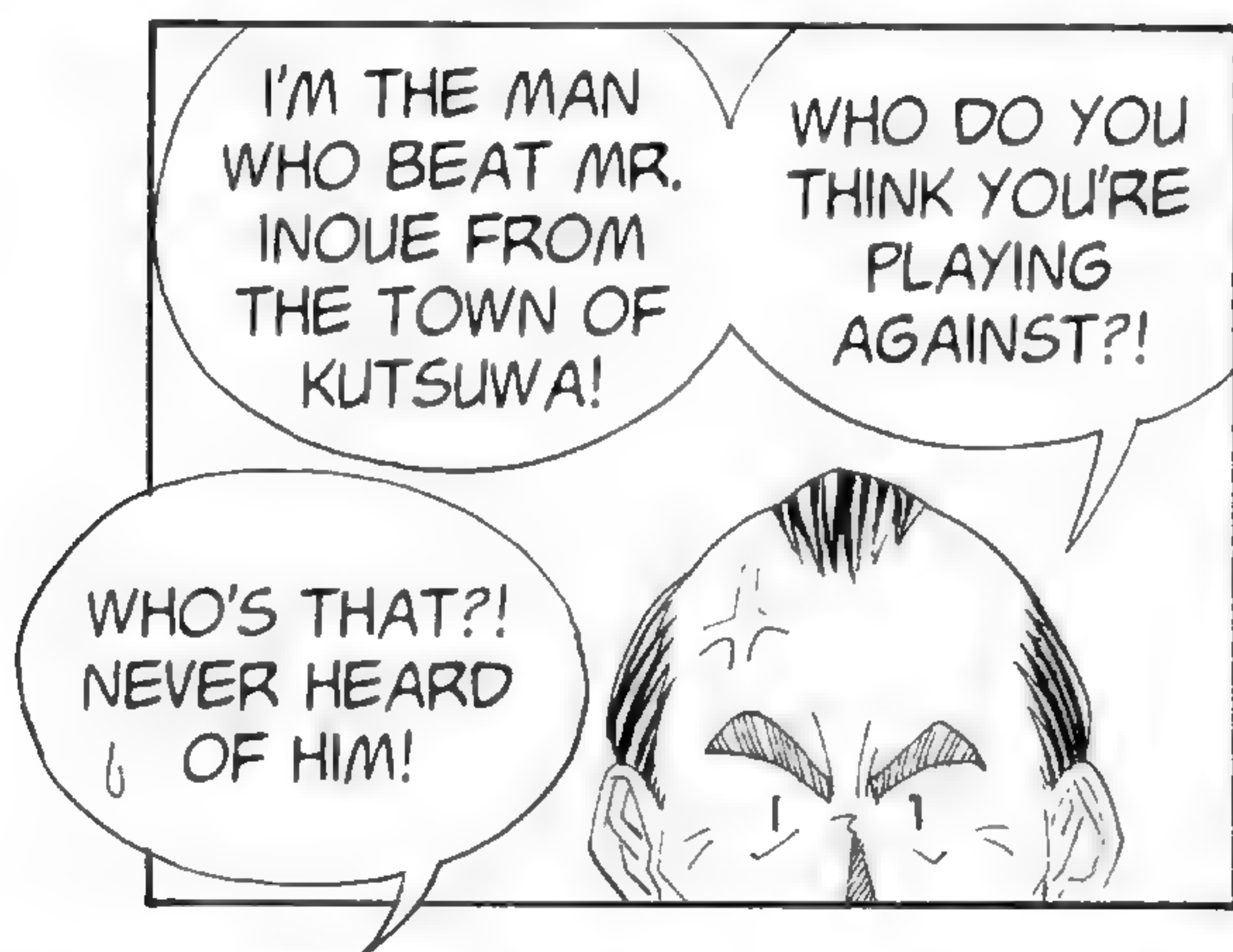




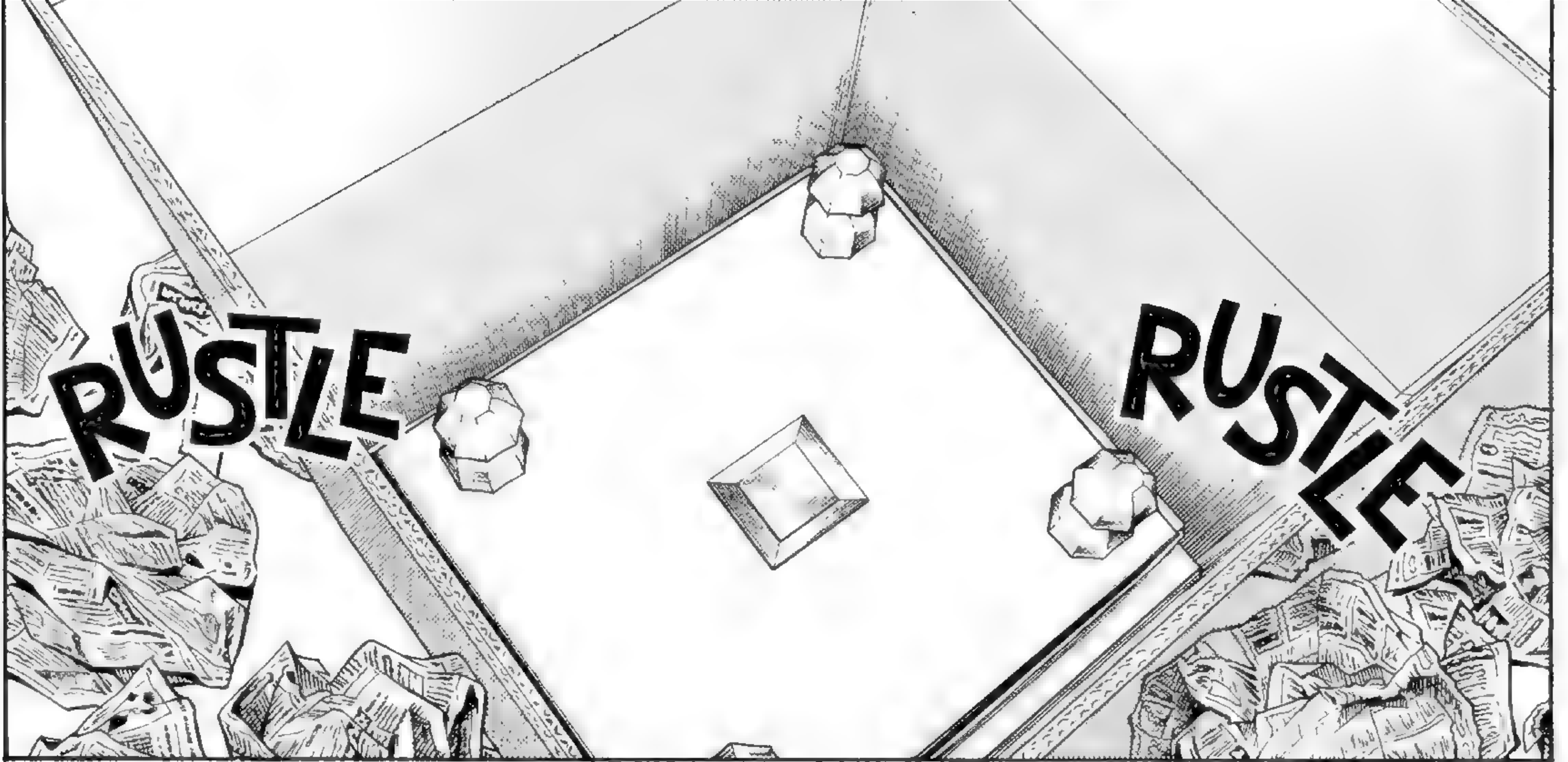












\*Approximately \$500



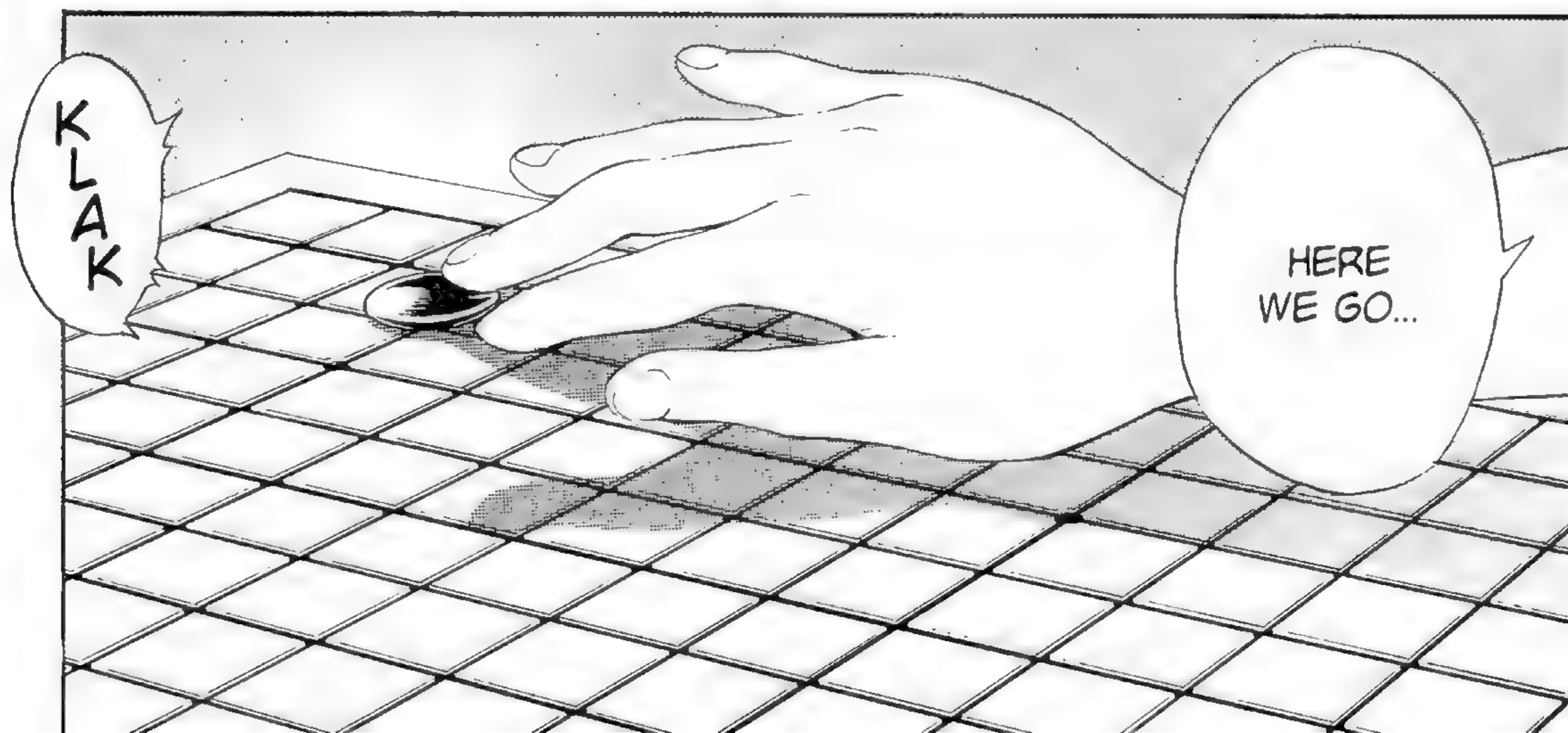




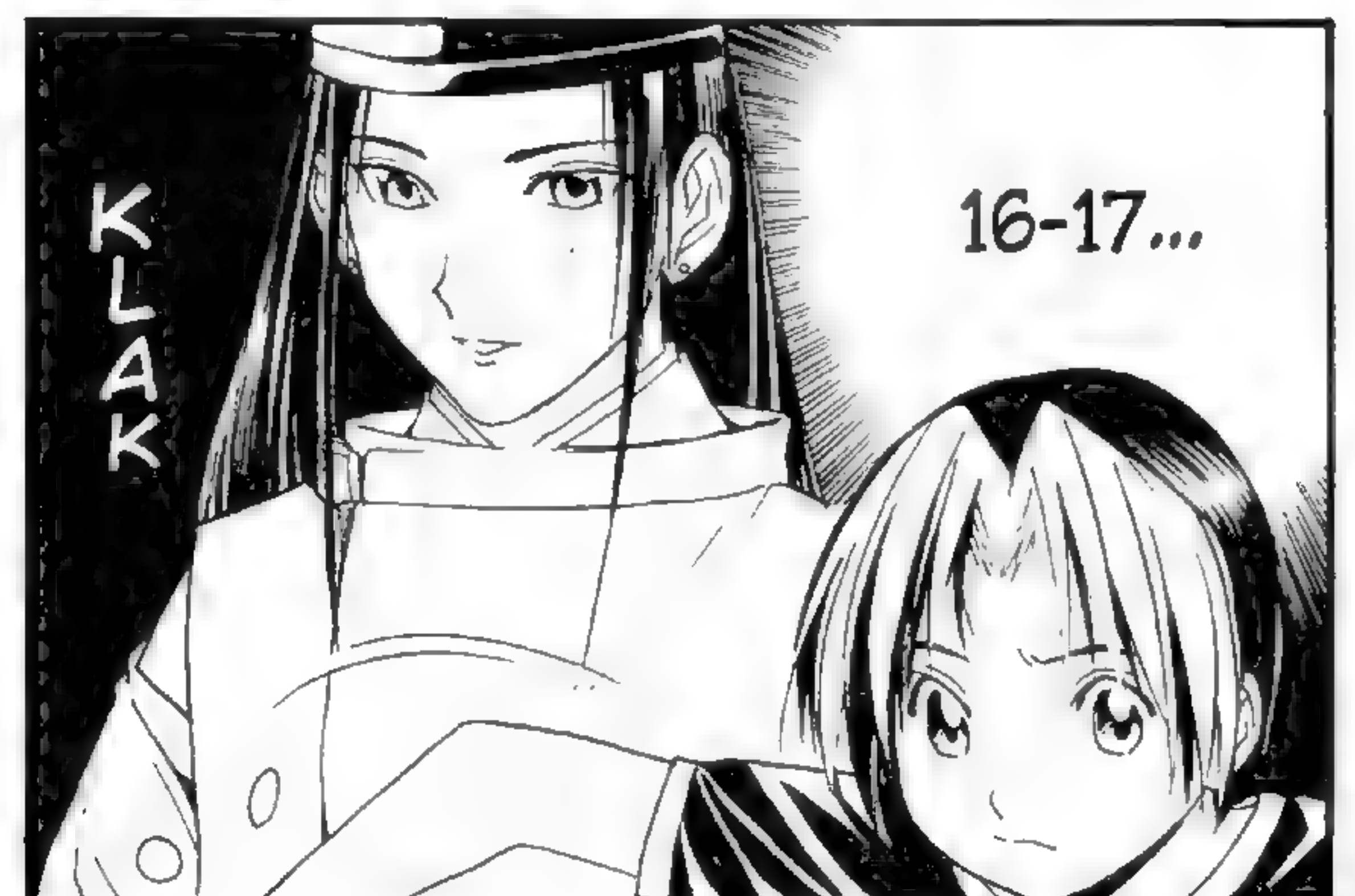
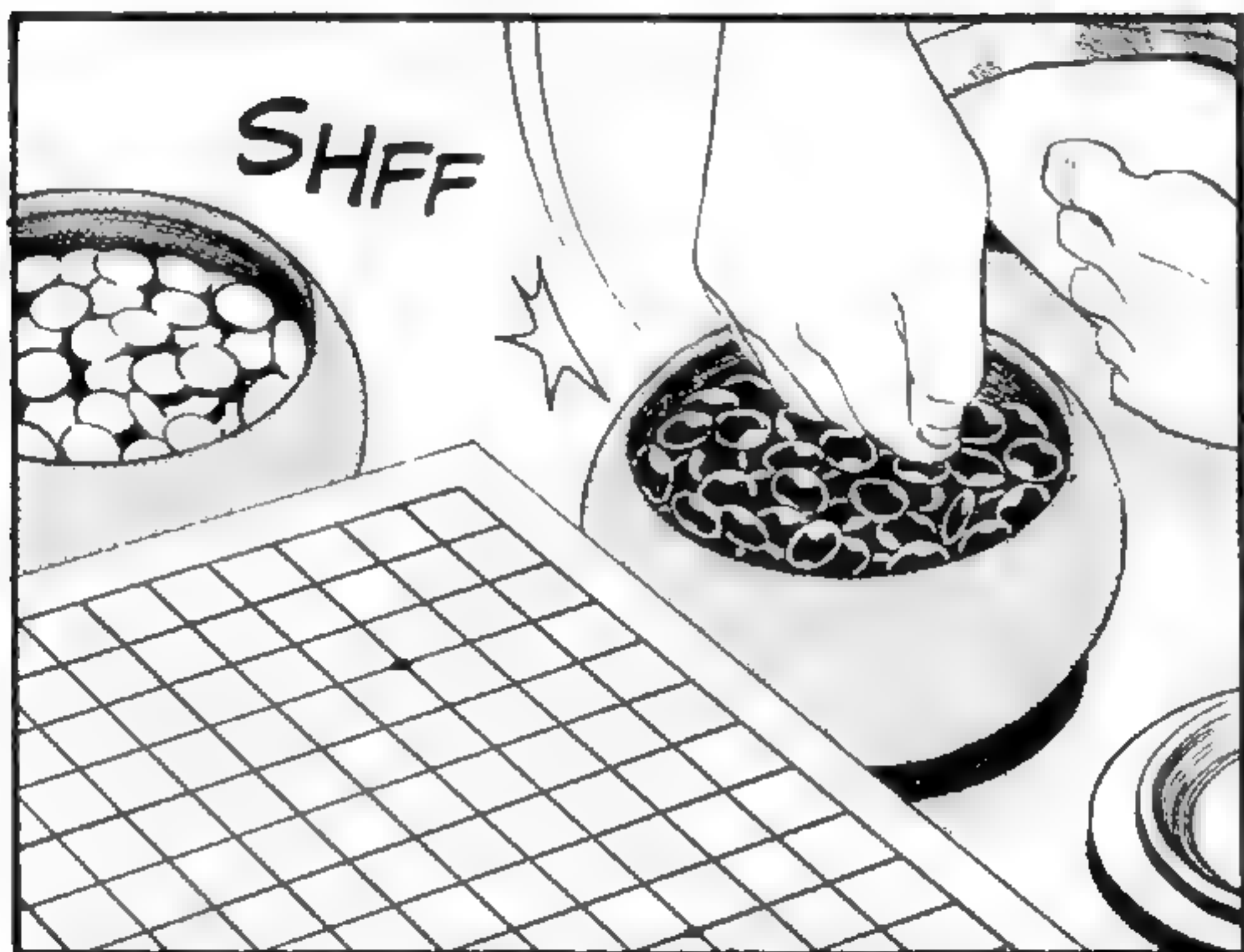
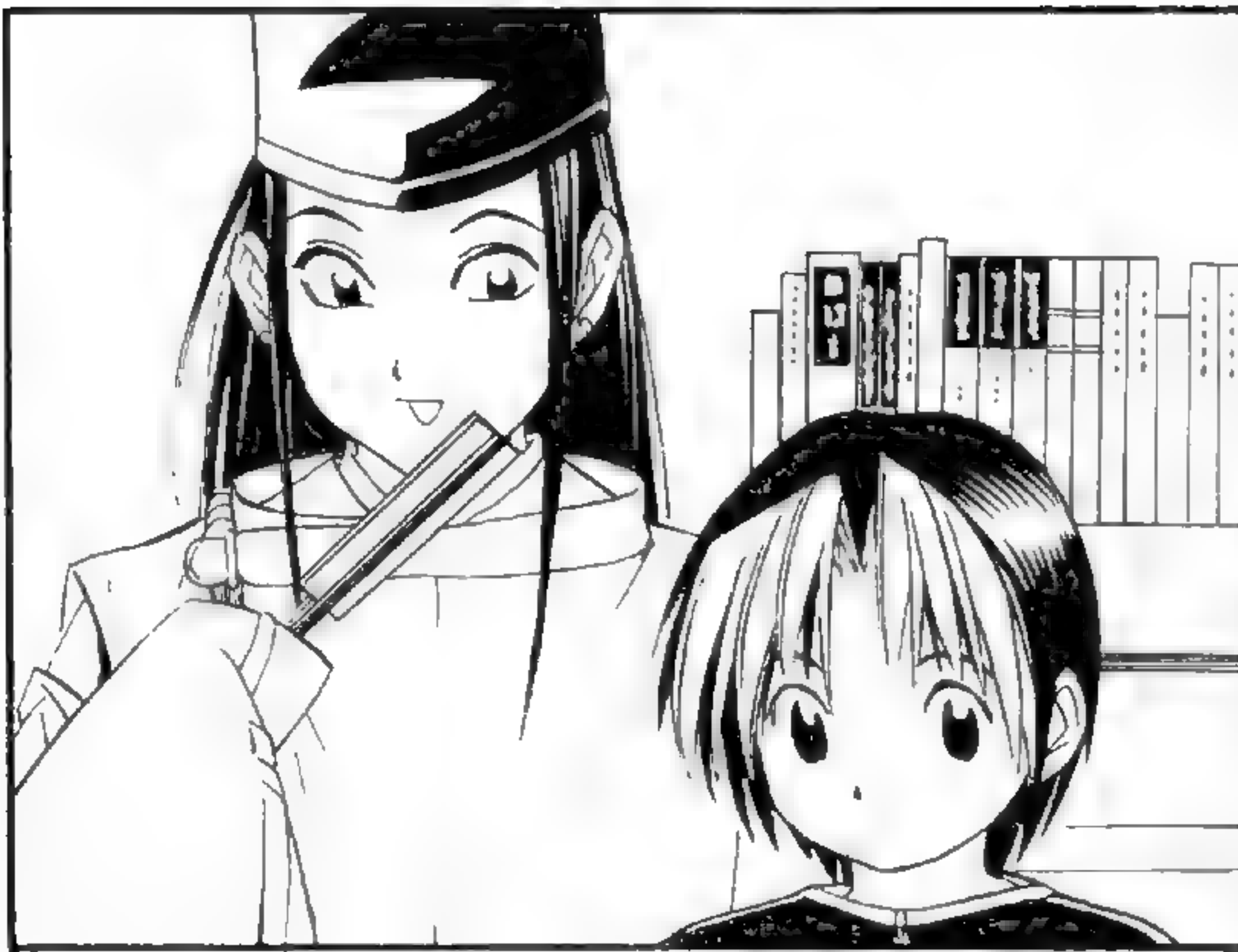












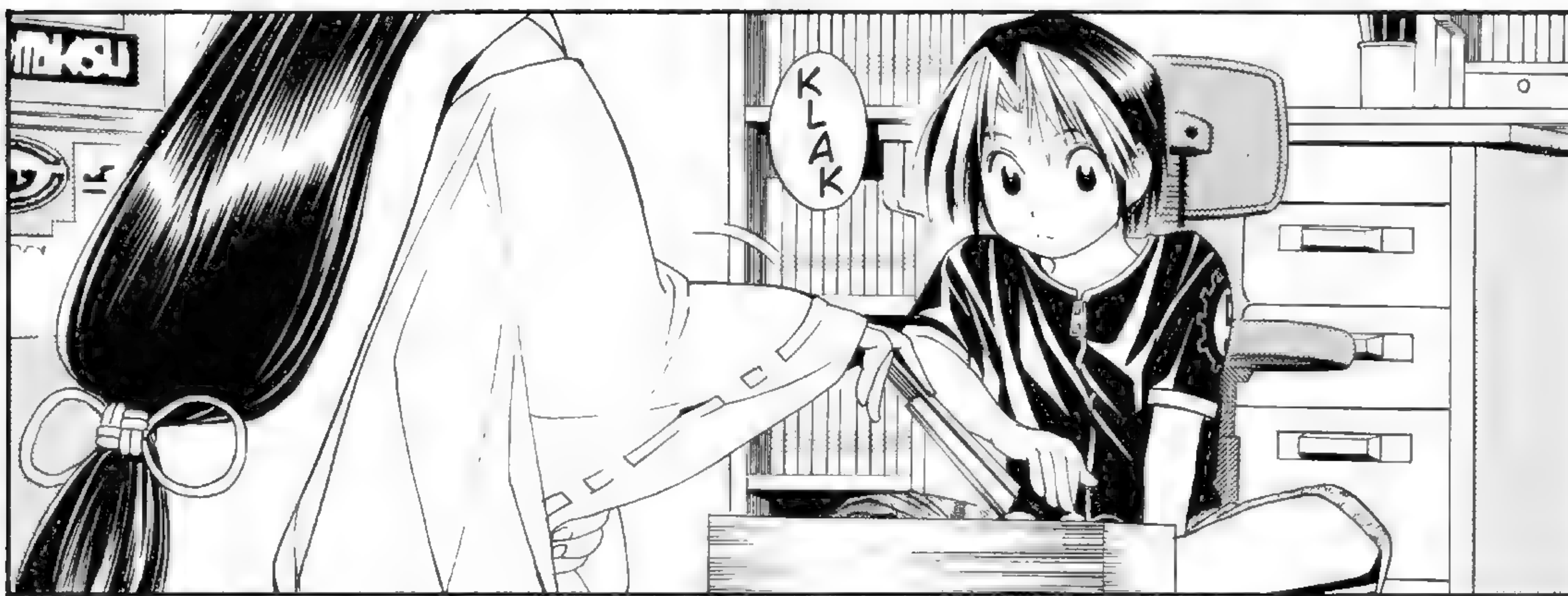
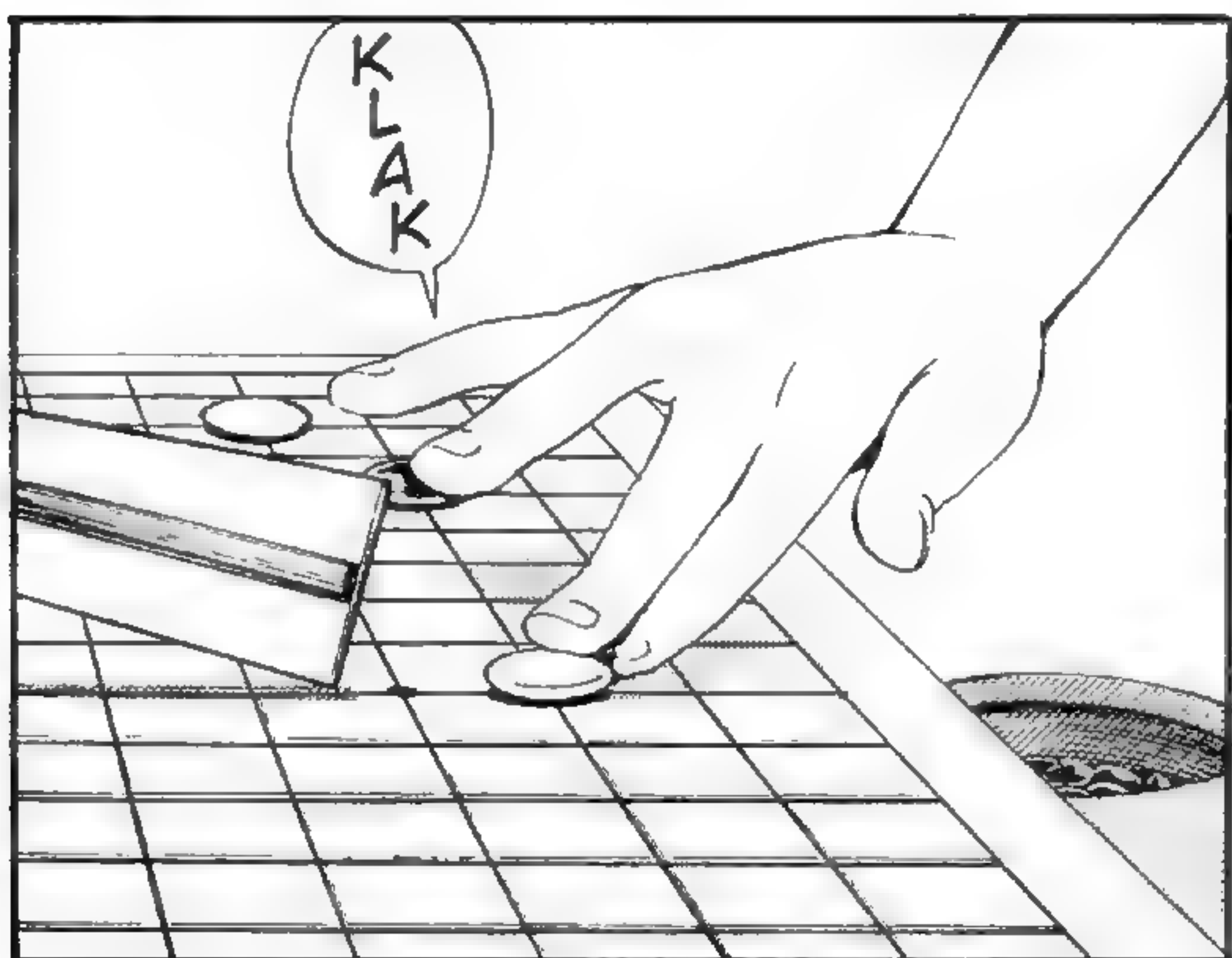
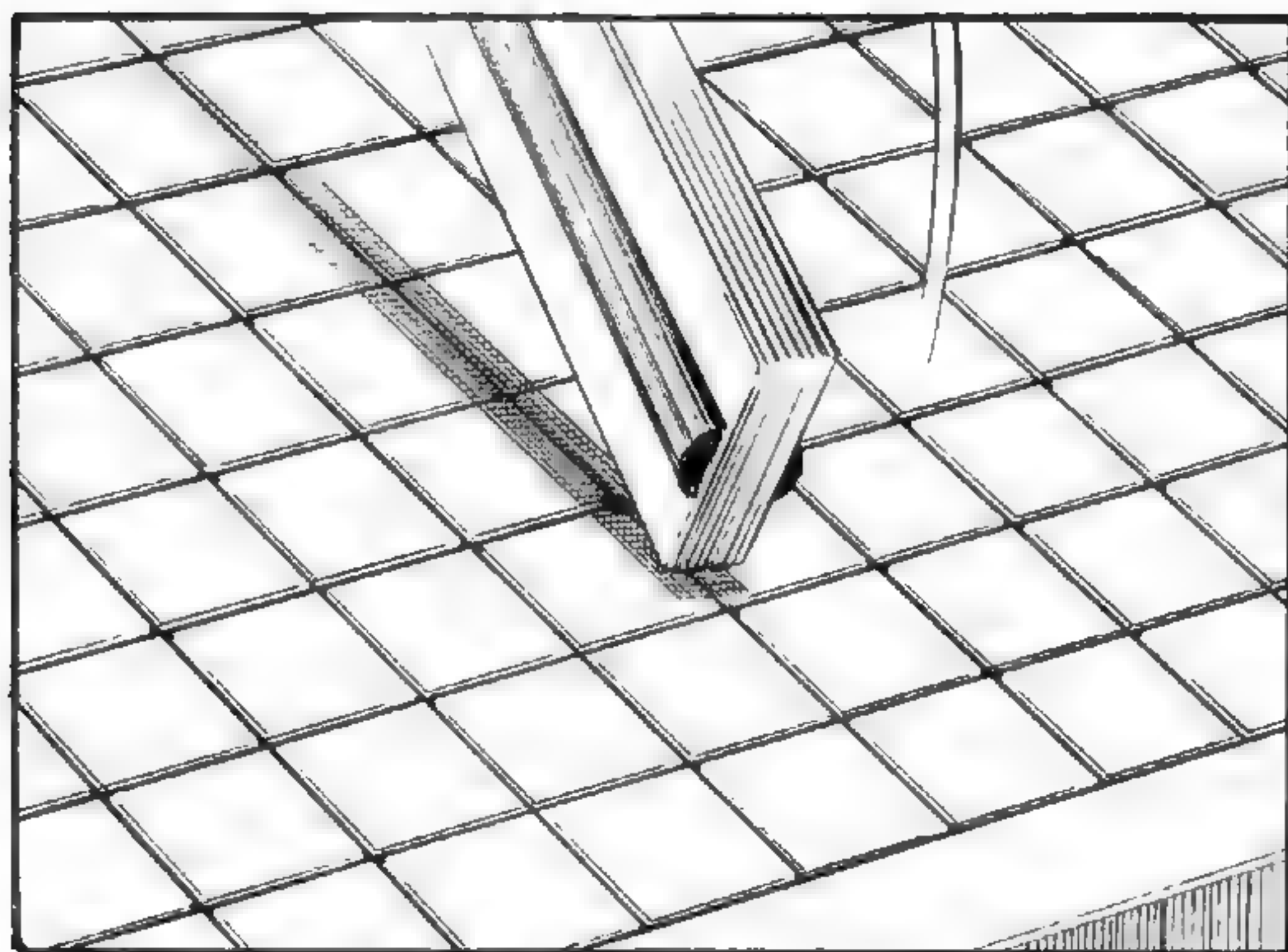
















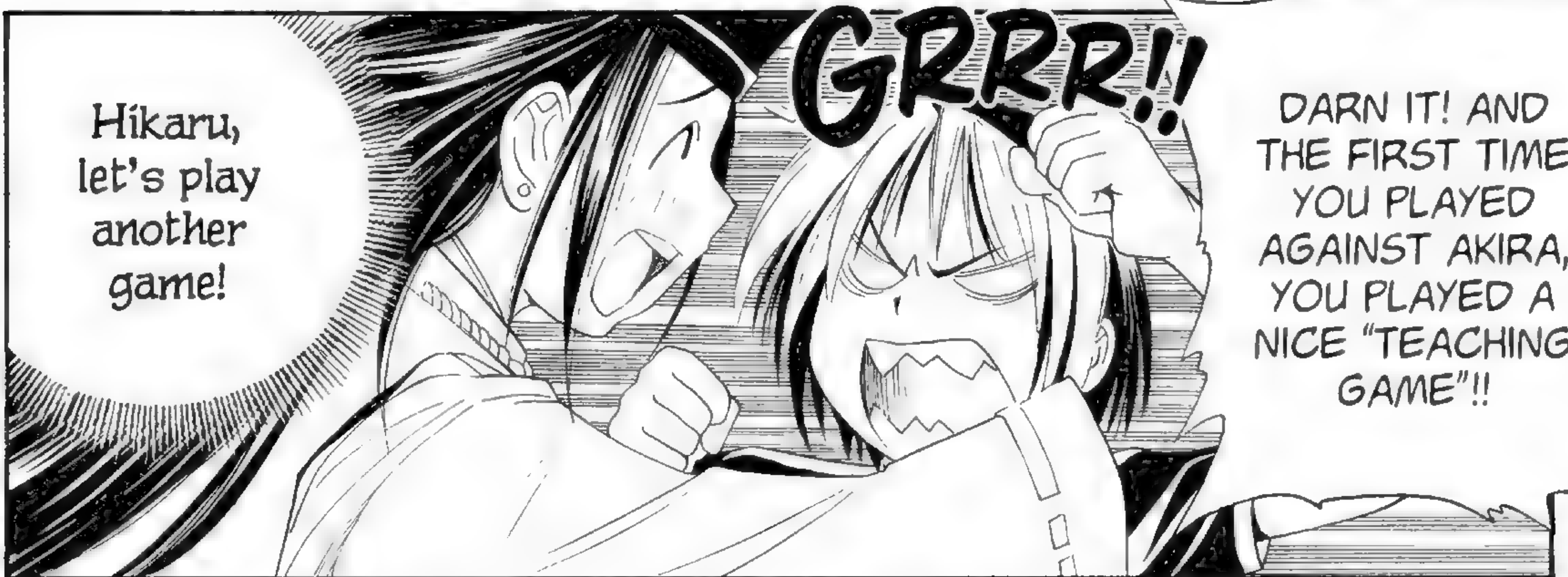
Heh  
heh...

Huh?

YOU PLAYED  
ALL OUT,  
DIDN'T YOU?!



GRRR!  
I GIVE UP!!



Hikaru,  
let's play  
another  
game!

GRRR!!

DARN IT! AND  
THE FIRST TIME  
YOU PLAYED  
AGAINST AKIRA,  
YOU PLAYED A  
NICE "TEACHING  
GAME"!!



MUTTER  
MUTTER

.....

KLAK

KLAK

HIKARU!  
WHAT'S GOING  
ON UP THERE?  
WHY ARE YOU  
MAKING THAT  
RUCKUS?!







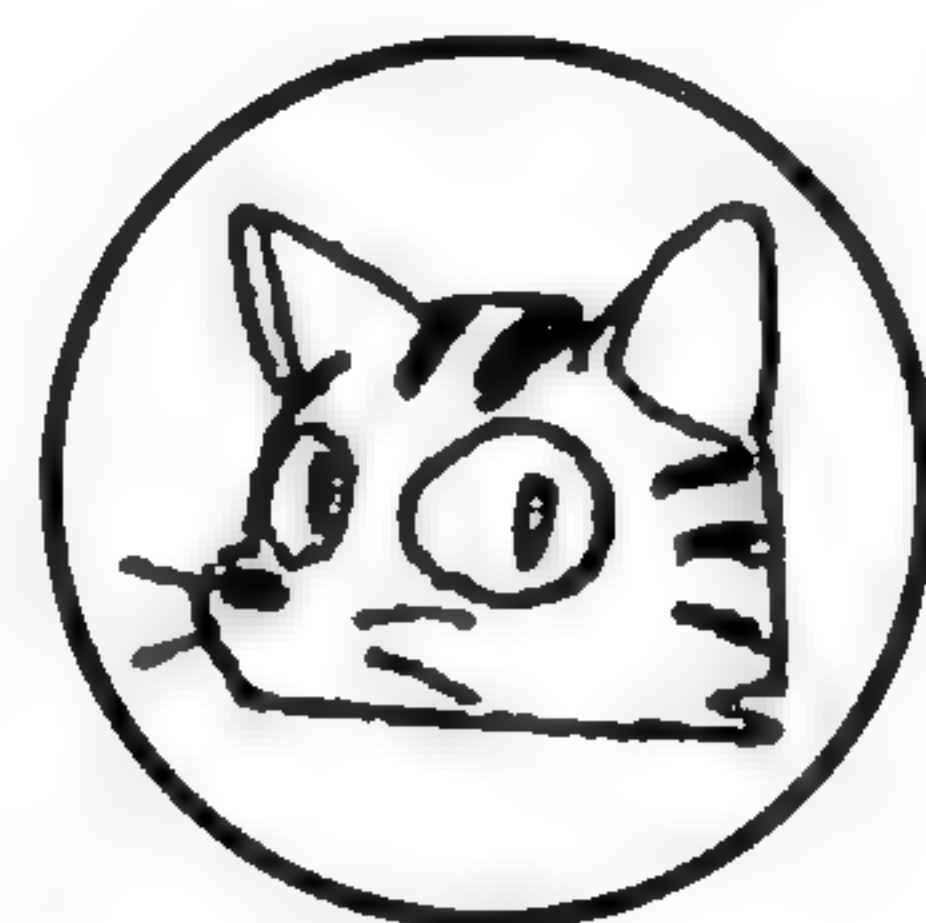
# A WORD ABOUT HIKARU NO GO

## TECHNICAL GO TERMS IN ENGLISH



REGARDLESS OF THE SITUATION, A BEGINNER BASICALLY WILL HAVE NO WAY OF KNOWING WHO IS WINNING AND WHO IS LOSING. ALSO, A BEGINNER WILL HAVE NO IDEA HOW LONG TO KEEP PLAYING. SOME GAME, HUH?

THAT'S WHY IT'S HARD TO MAKE SENSE OF THE GAME IF YOU JUST TRY TO LEARN IT FROM A BOOK. YOU MUST PLAY GAMES AND LEARN FROM OTHER PEOPLE. SOME GAME, HUH?



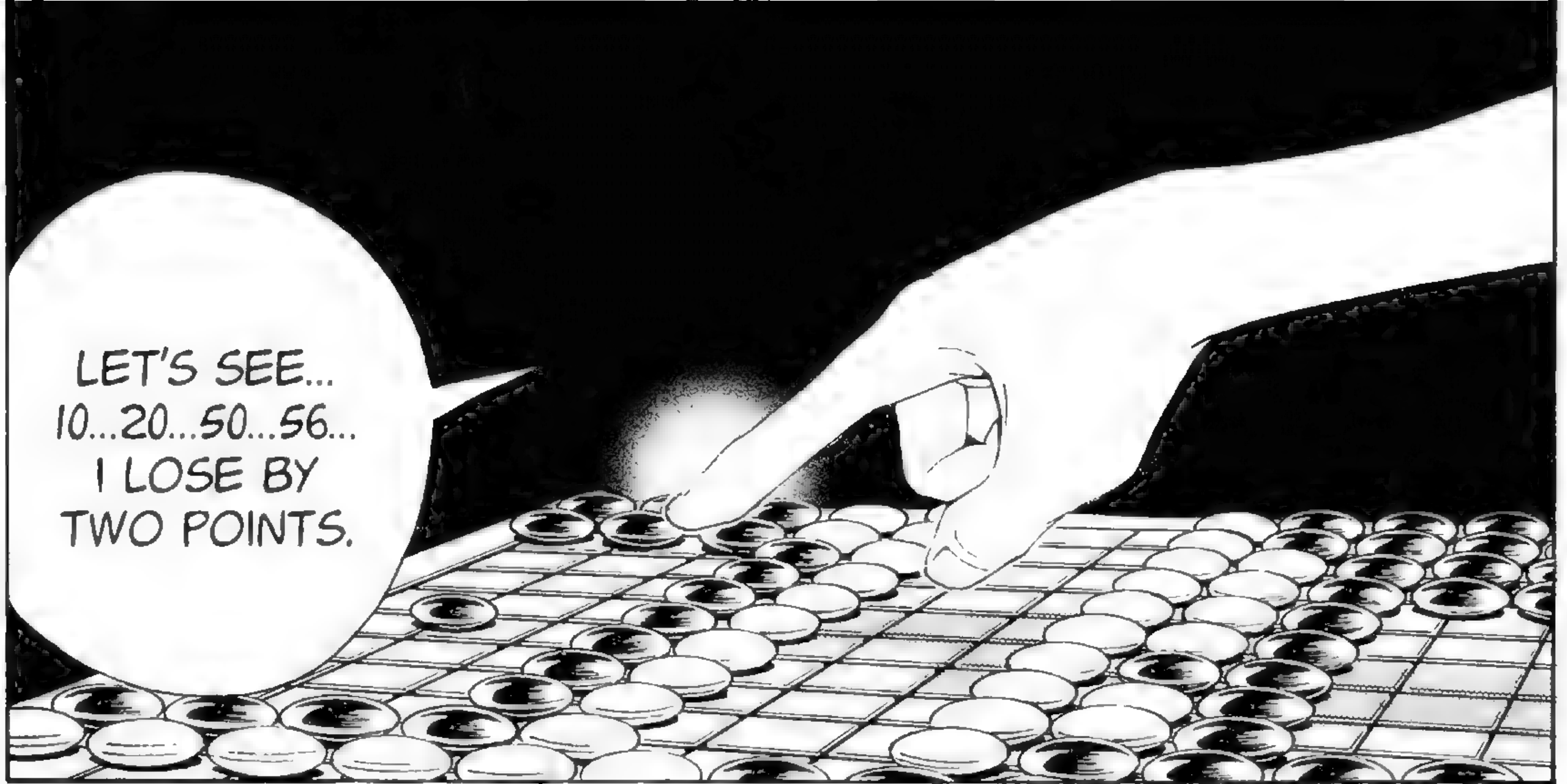


## Game 39

"I Want to Know How  
Strong You Are"



















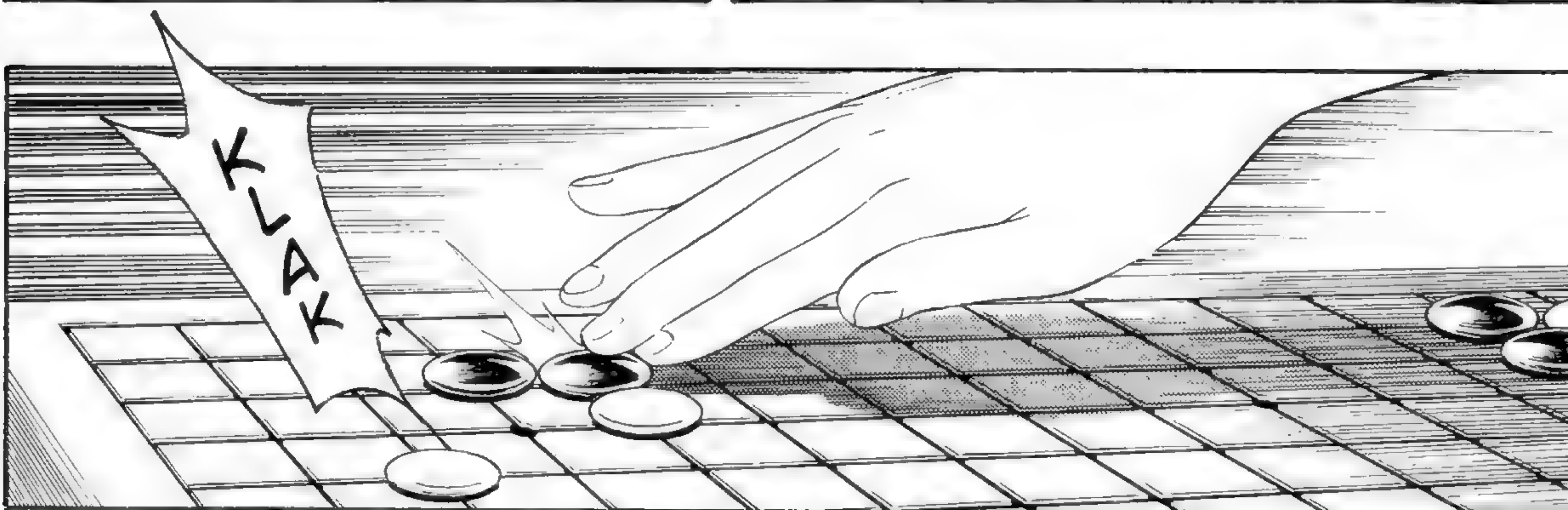






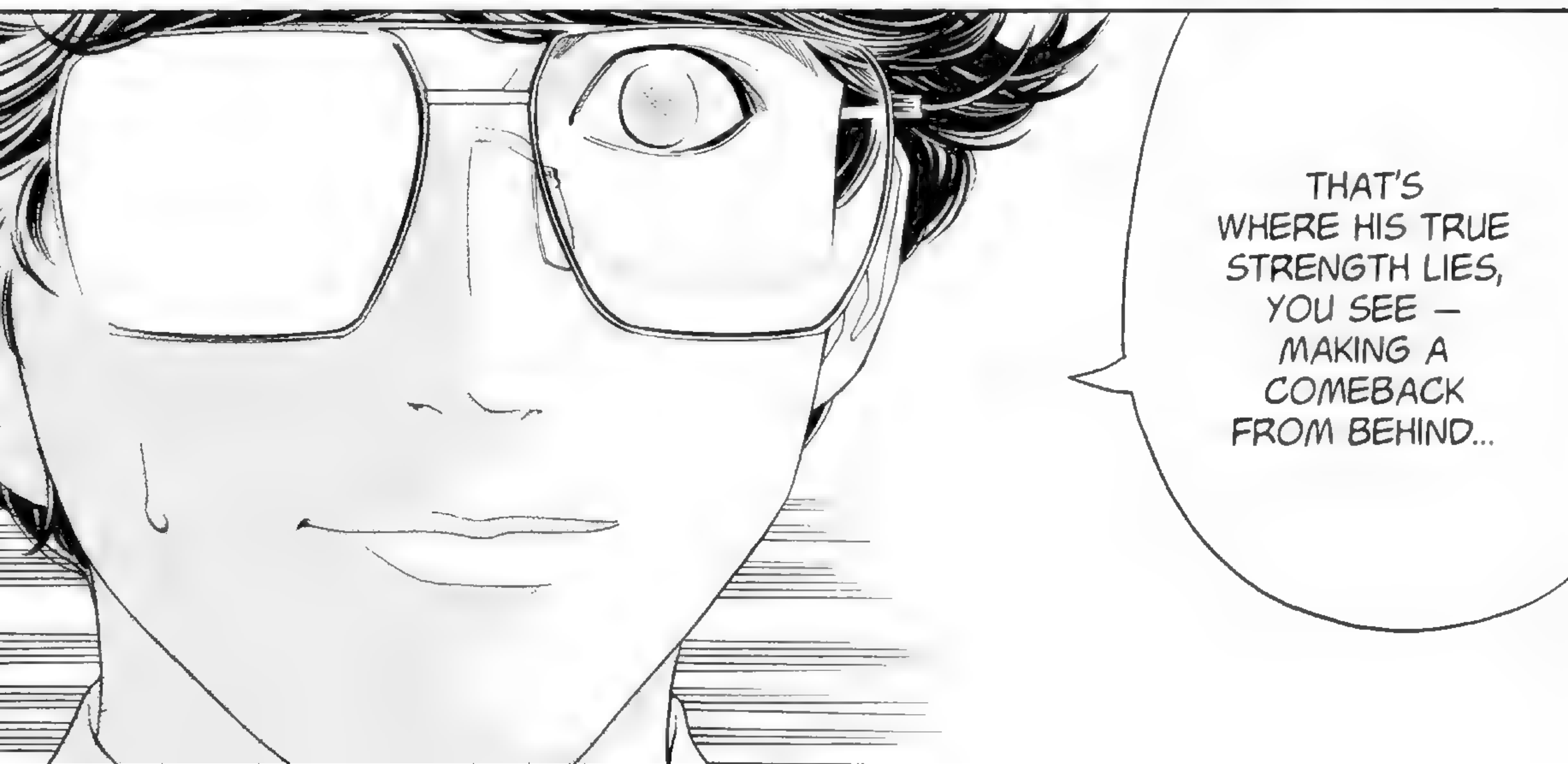








# COMMUNITY CENTER

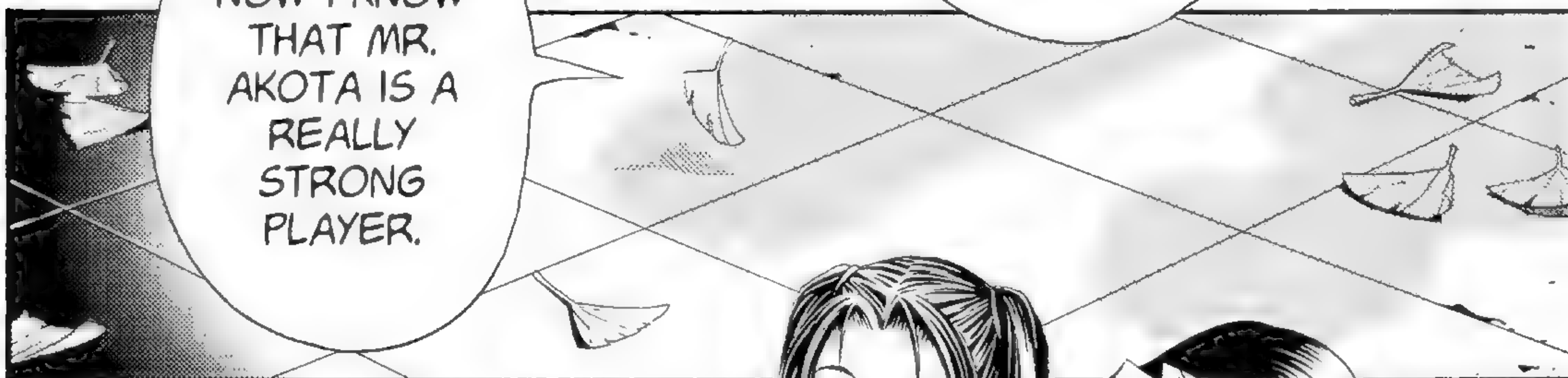






NOT EVEN  
A YEAR HAS  
PASSED SINCE  
HE STARTED  
PLAYING GO.

HIS CLUB  
ADVISOR MUST  
BE INCREDIBLY  
STRONG OR  
HIKARU MUST BE  
INCREDIBLY PAS-  
SIONATE ABOUT  
GO...



NOW I KNOW  
THAT MR.  
AKOTA IS A  
REALLY  
STRONG  
PLAYER.



THAT'S  
RIGHT. AND  
SOMEDAY,  
I'LL BEAT  
YUKI TOO.

YOU SAY  
MR. AKOTA  
IS GOOD,  
BUT YOU  
BEAT HIM.

IT TAKES A  
GOOD PLAYER  
TO RECOGNIZE  
HOW STRONG HIS  
OPPONENT IS.  
YOU CAN'T TELL  
HOW GOOD YOUR  
OPPONENT IS  
UNLESS YOU'RE  
GOOD  
YOURSELF.

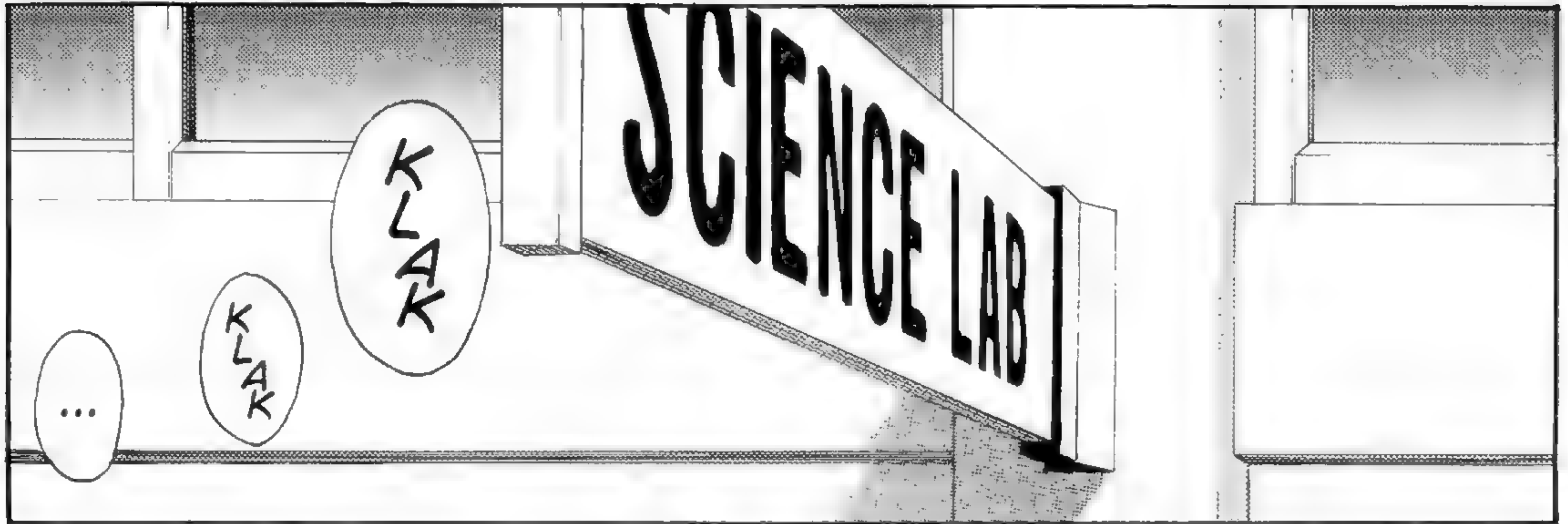
















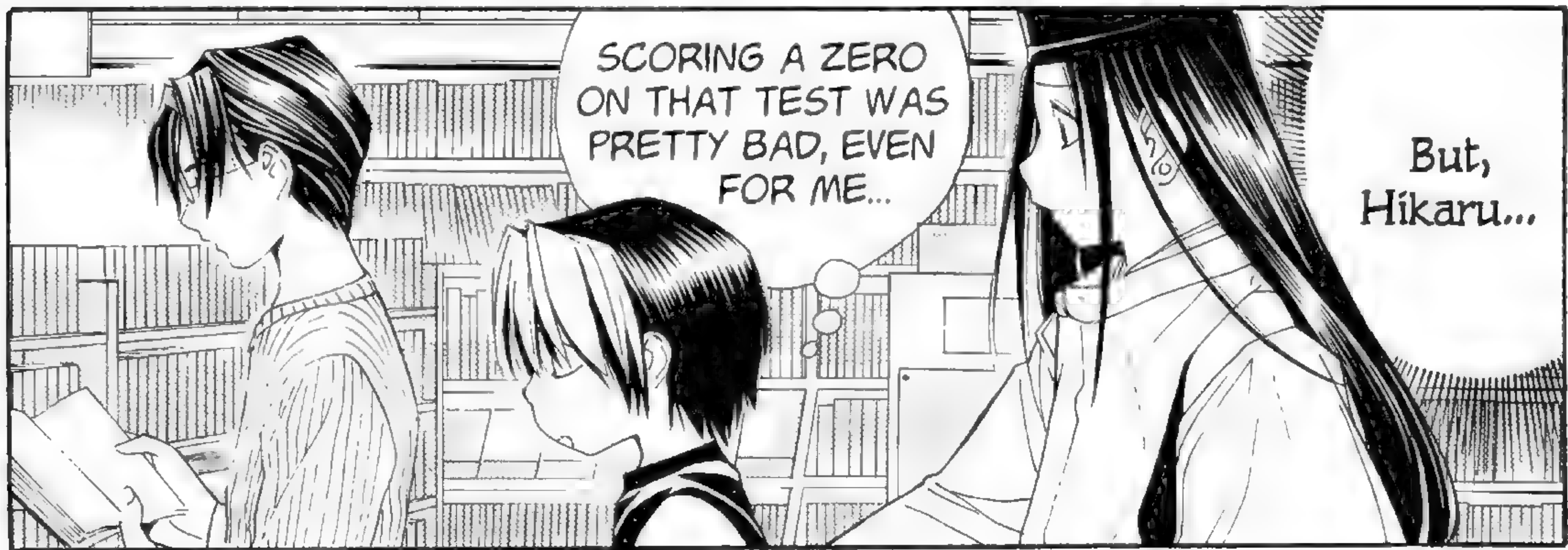




















HAVEN'T SEEN YOU IN A WHILE. LET'S SEE... IS THAT FOR TWO?



HELLO THERE, KAORU.

RATTLE



OKAY...

GO AHEAD AND SIT DOWN AT AN OPEN TABLE.



HE SAID HE WANTED TO FIND OUT SOMETHING AND THEN HE BROUGHT ME HERE.

SKOOT

I WONDER WHAT'S GOING ON.



MAYBE HE WANTS TO KNOW THE CONNECTION BETWEEN ME AND AKIRA...

YEAH, THAT MIGHT BE IT...



NO, THAT COULDN'T BE IT...

MAYBE HE'S GOING TO ASK ME HOW YUKI IS DOING...











Yumi Hotta

Nine Stones →

Yukari Umezawa

TO GET AN IDEA OF HOW STRONG OF A GO PLAYER I AM, YUKARI UMEZAWA (1 DAN) GIVES ME A HANDICAP OF NINE STONES.

# HIKARU NO GO STORYBOARDS

(13)

YUMI HOTTA

WE STARTED STUDYING GO RIGHT BEFORE SERIALIZATION STARTED, BUT NOW WE HARDLY PLAY AT ALL.

Takahashi

MY HUSBAND GIVES MY EDITOR TAKAHASHI A NINE-STONE HANDICAP.

Nine Stones →

Yumi Hotta's husband

I GIVE MY HUSBAND A NINE-STONE HANDICAP.

Nine Stones →

Yumi Hotta

THIS IS ALL JUST MY ESTIMATE OF EVERYONE'S GO ABILITY, BUT I THINK IT'S FAIRLY ACCURATE.

SO ACCORDINGLY...

Obata Sensei

TAKAHASHI GIVES OBATA SENSEI A NINE-STONE HANDICAP.

Nine Stones →

Taka-hashi

I'D HAVE TO CONSIDER VARIOUS FACTORS AND SPEND ALL NIGHT THINKING ABOUT HOW THE GAME WOULD PROGRESS.

IF SOMEONE WANTED TO WAGER ¥10,000\* I WOULDN'T KNOW WHO TO BACK.

THAT WOULD BE A GREAT MATCHUP FOR SURE!

I'D LIKE TO SEE YUKARI UMEZAWA PLAY OBATA SENSEI WITH A 36-STONE HANDICAP!

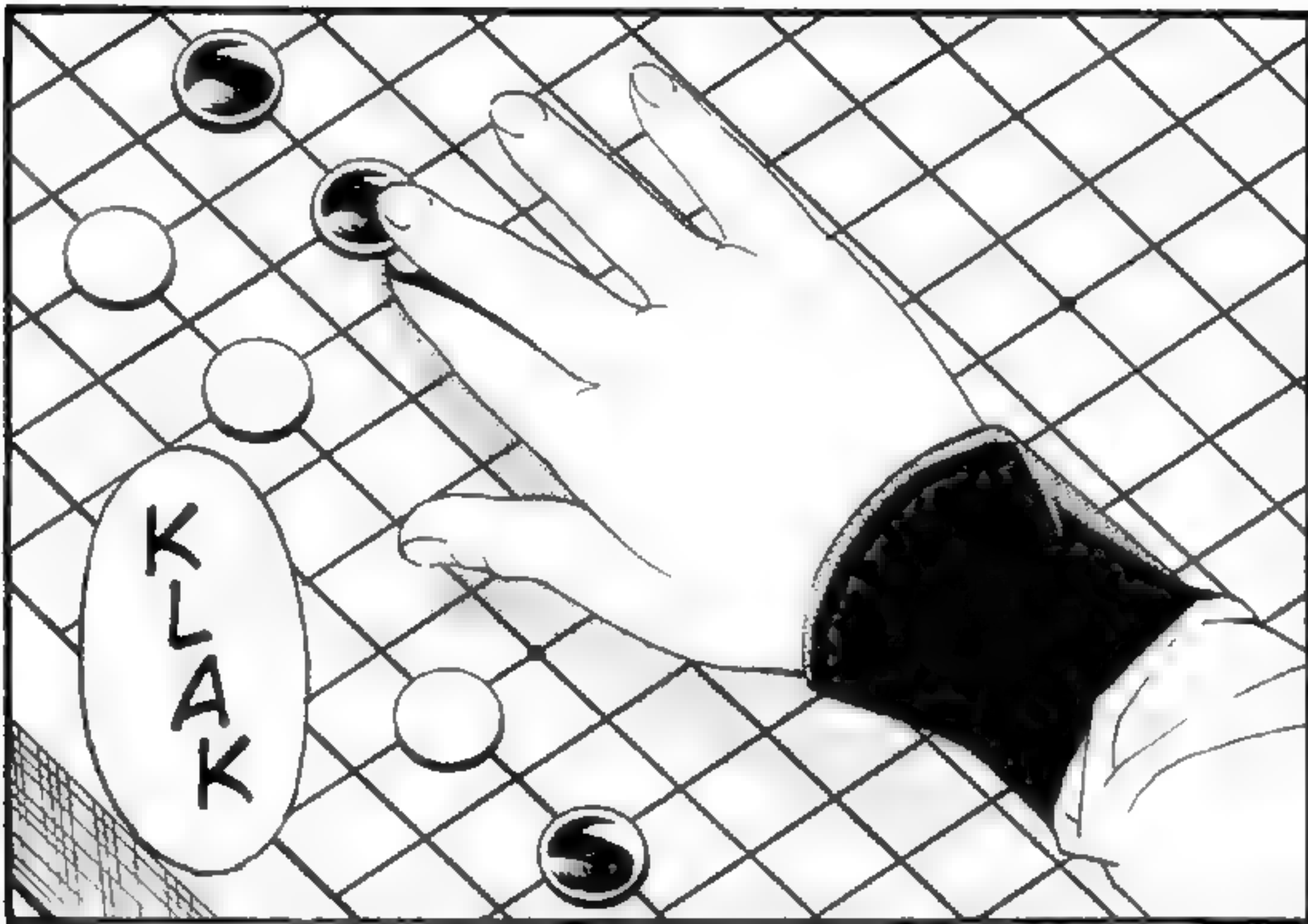
\*ABOUT US \$100



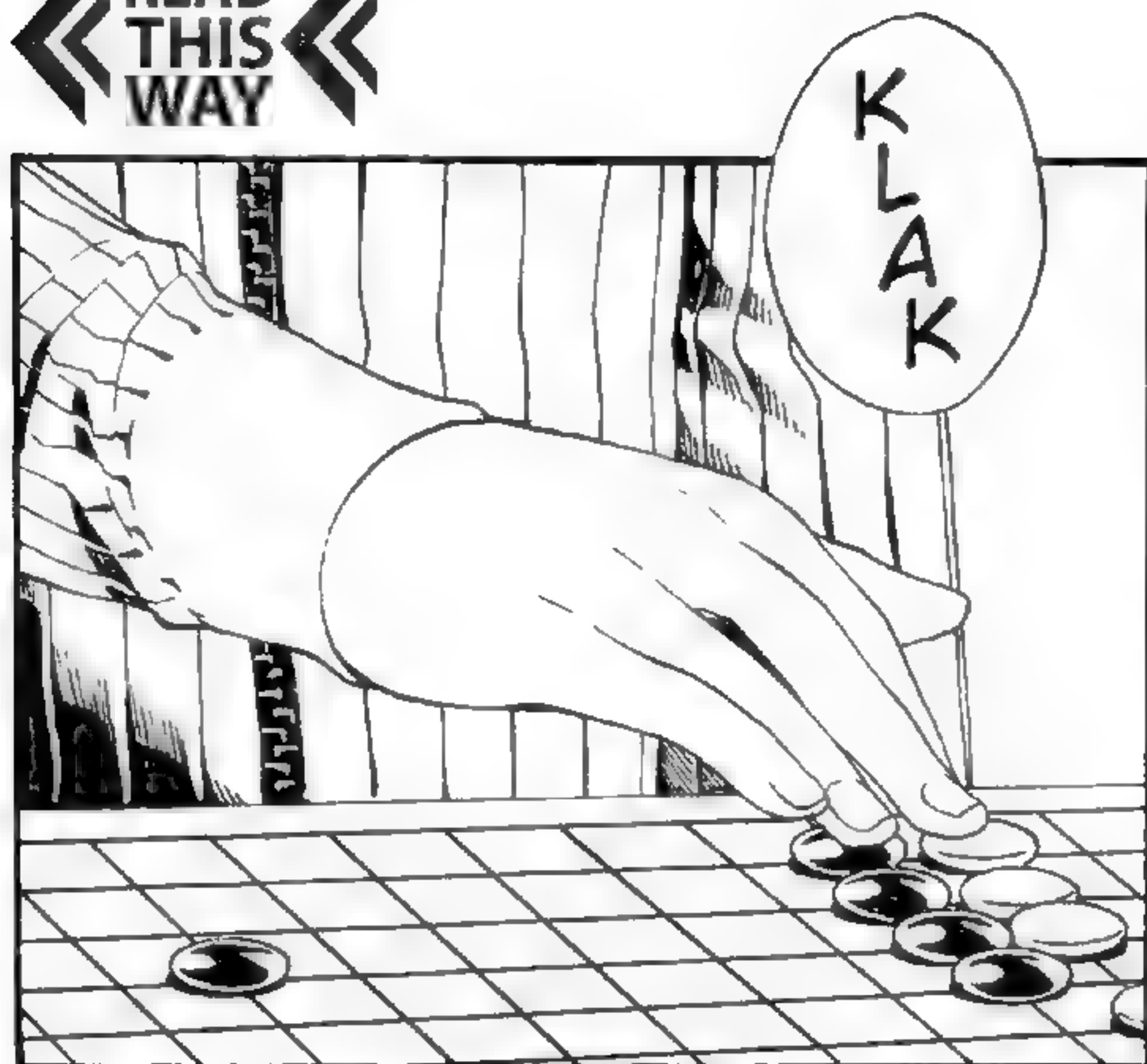


Game 40 "Start"





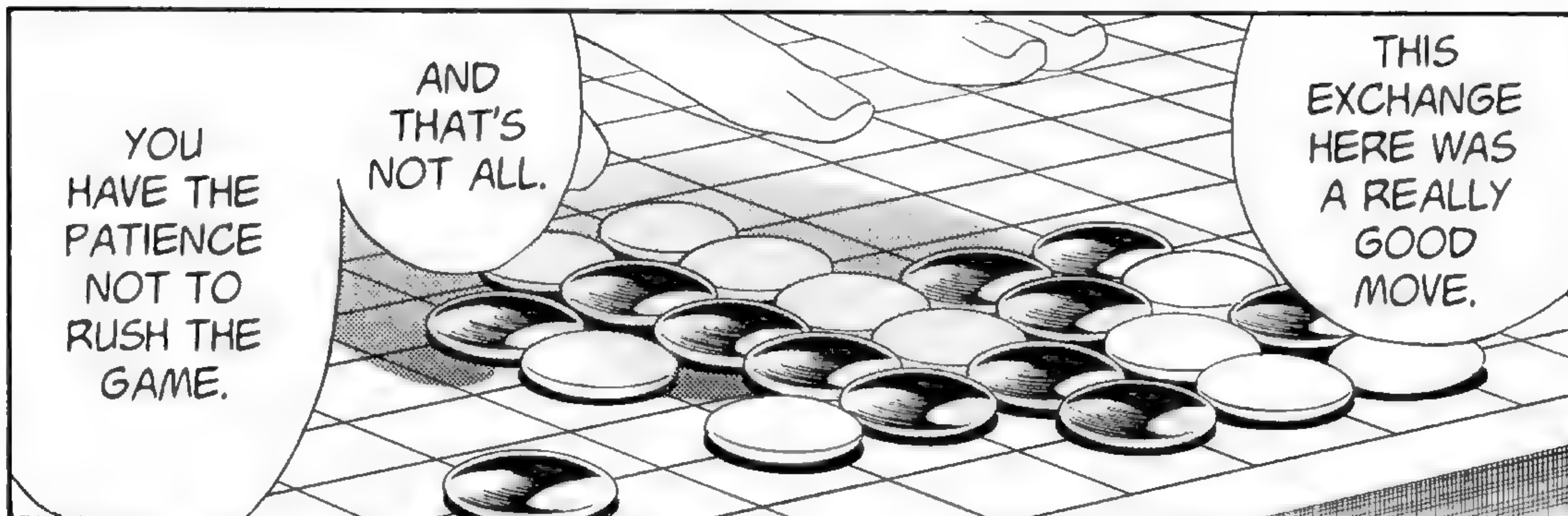
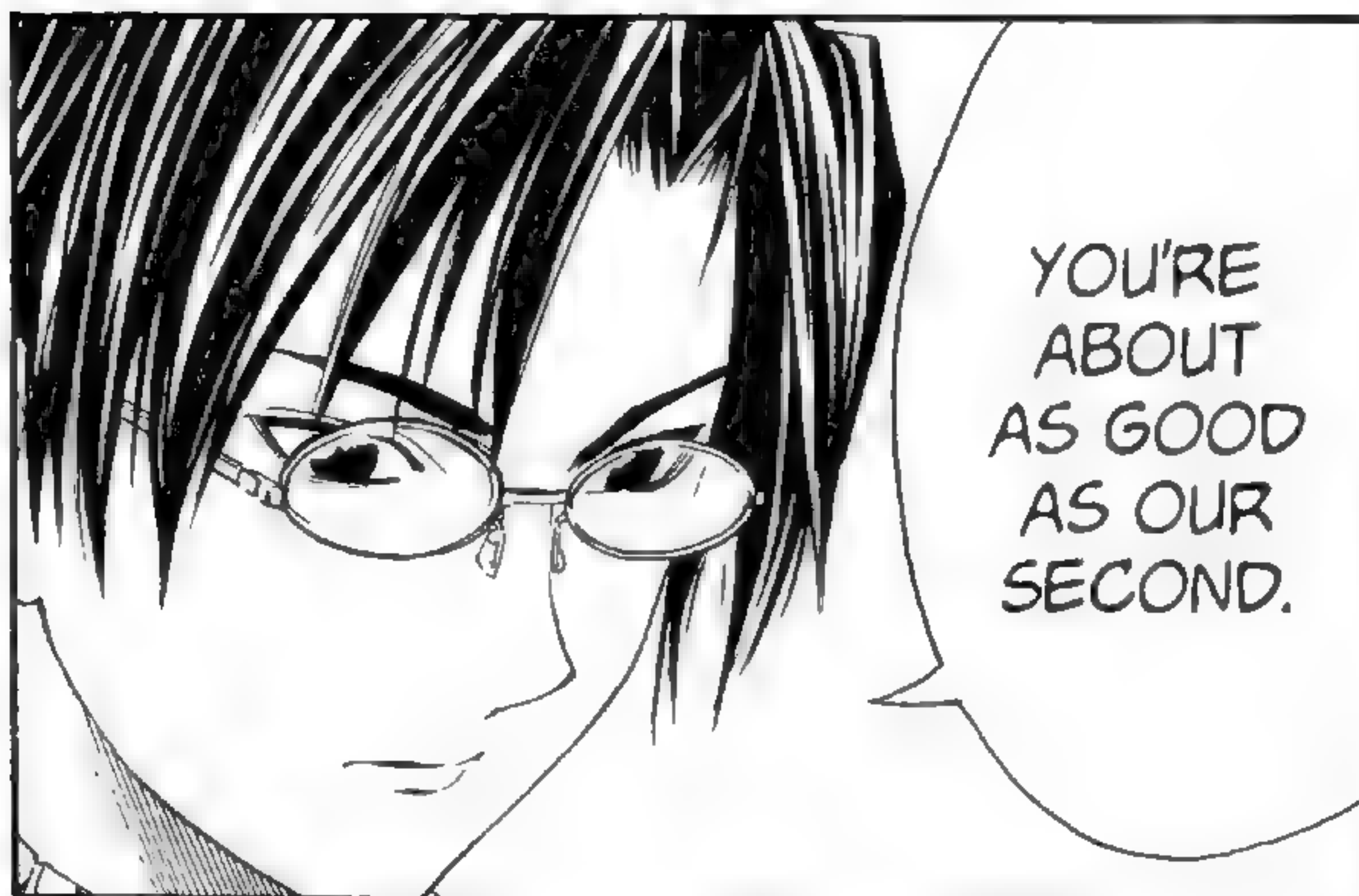












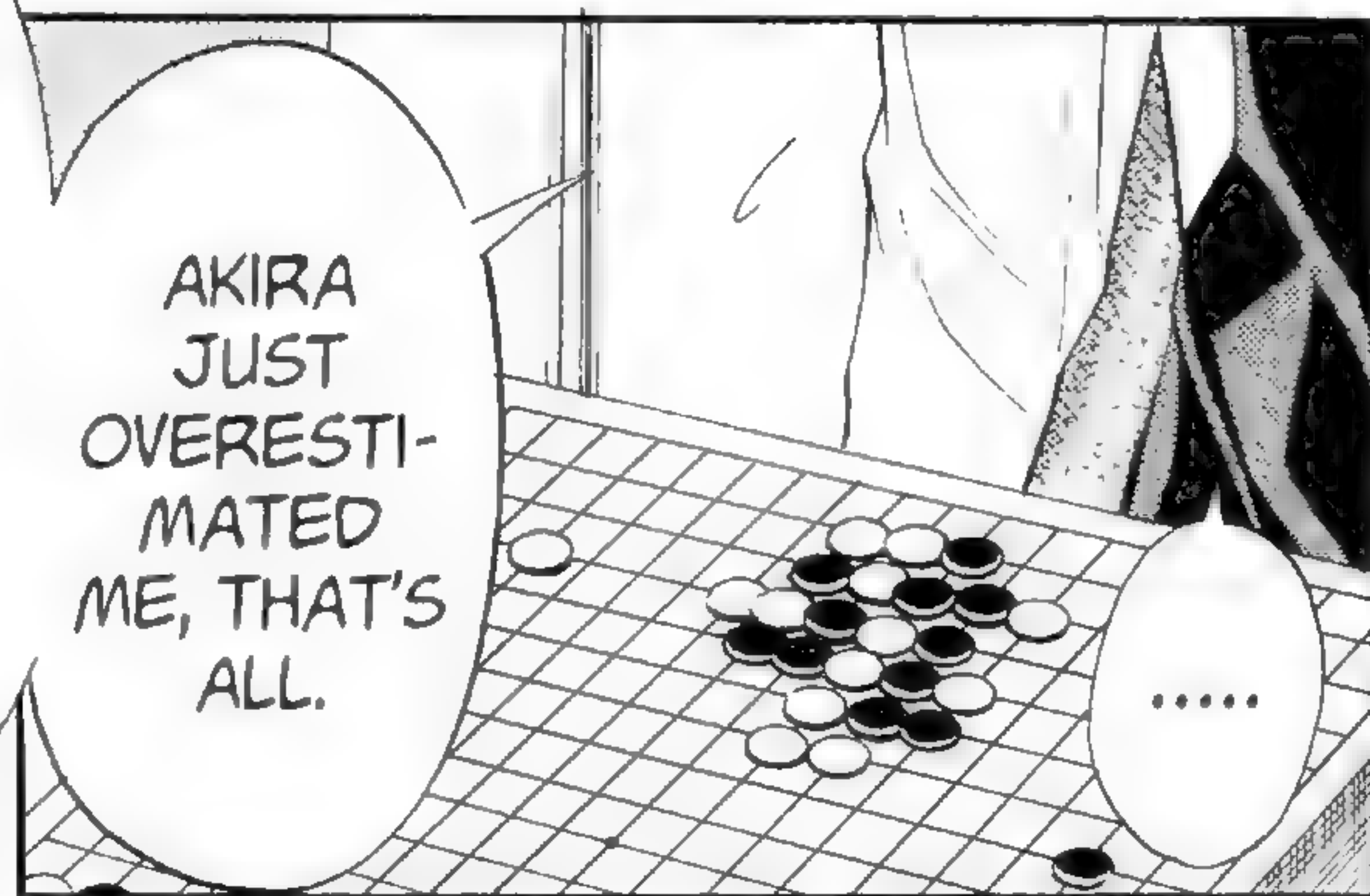




THAT'S WHY  
HE WAS SO  
DISAPPOINTED  
WHEN HE  
FOUND OUT  
MY TRUE  
ABILITY AT  
THE TOURNA-  
MENT.



OR IS THERE  
SOMETHING  
ELSE ABOUT  
YOU...?



AKIRA  
JUST  
OVERESTI-  
MATED  
ME, THAT'S  
ALL.

.....



HUH?



HE WAS  
DISAP-  
POINTED  
IN YOU —  
IS THAT  
ALL?

AND?



...GO  
AFTER  
HIM?

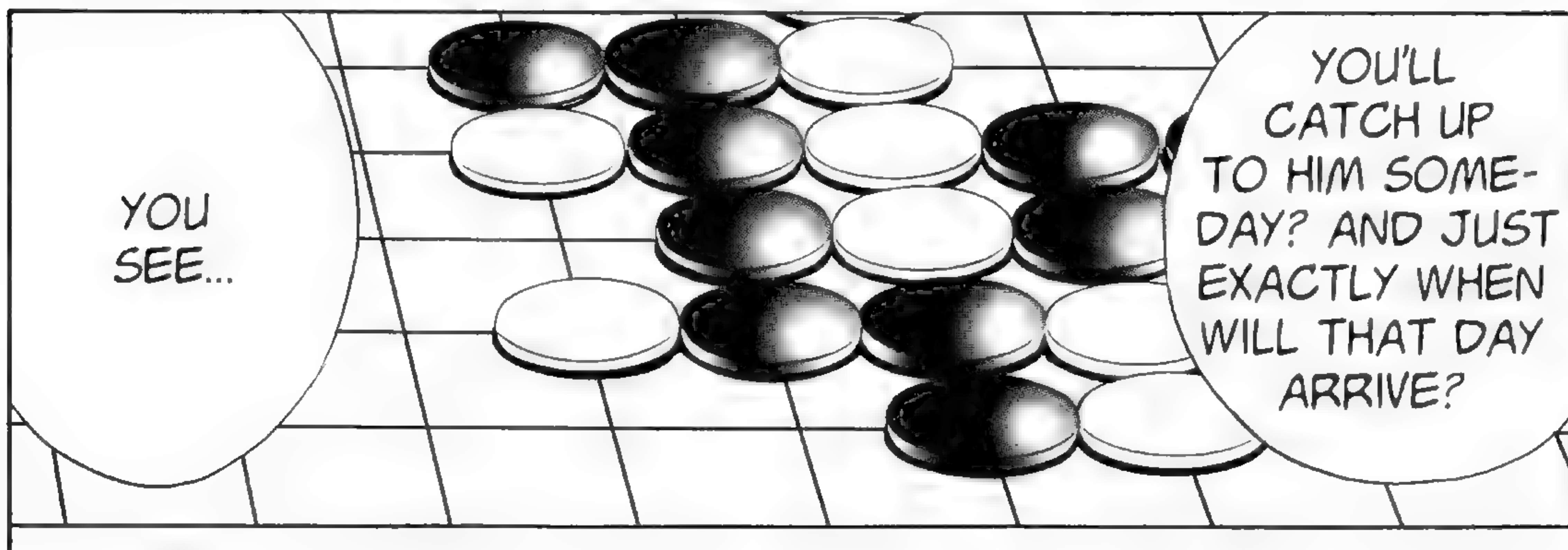
AREN'T  
YOU  
GOING  
TO...

THERE  
MUST BE  
SOMETHING  
ABOUT YOU  
THAT  
INTRIGUES  
AKIRA.













AKIRA HAS  
ALREADY  
PASSED THE  
PRO TEST.

THE TEST IS  
TWO MONTHS'  
WORTH OF  
MATCHES, SO  
ISN'T IT STILL  
GOING UNTIL THE  
END OF THIS  
MONTH?



IS THAT  
TRUE,  
KISHI-  
MOTO?

STARTING  
NEXT  
APRIL,  
AKIRA'S  
GOING TO  
BE A PRO  
GO  
PLAYER.



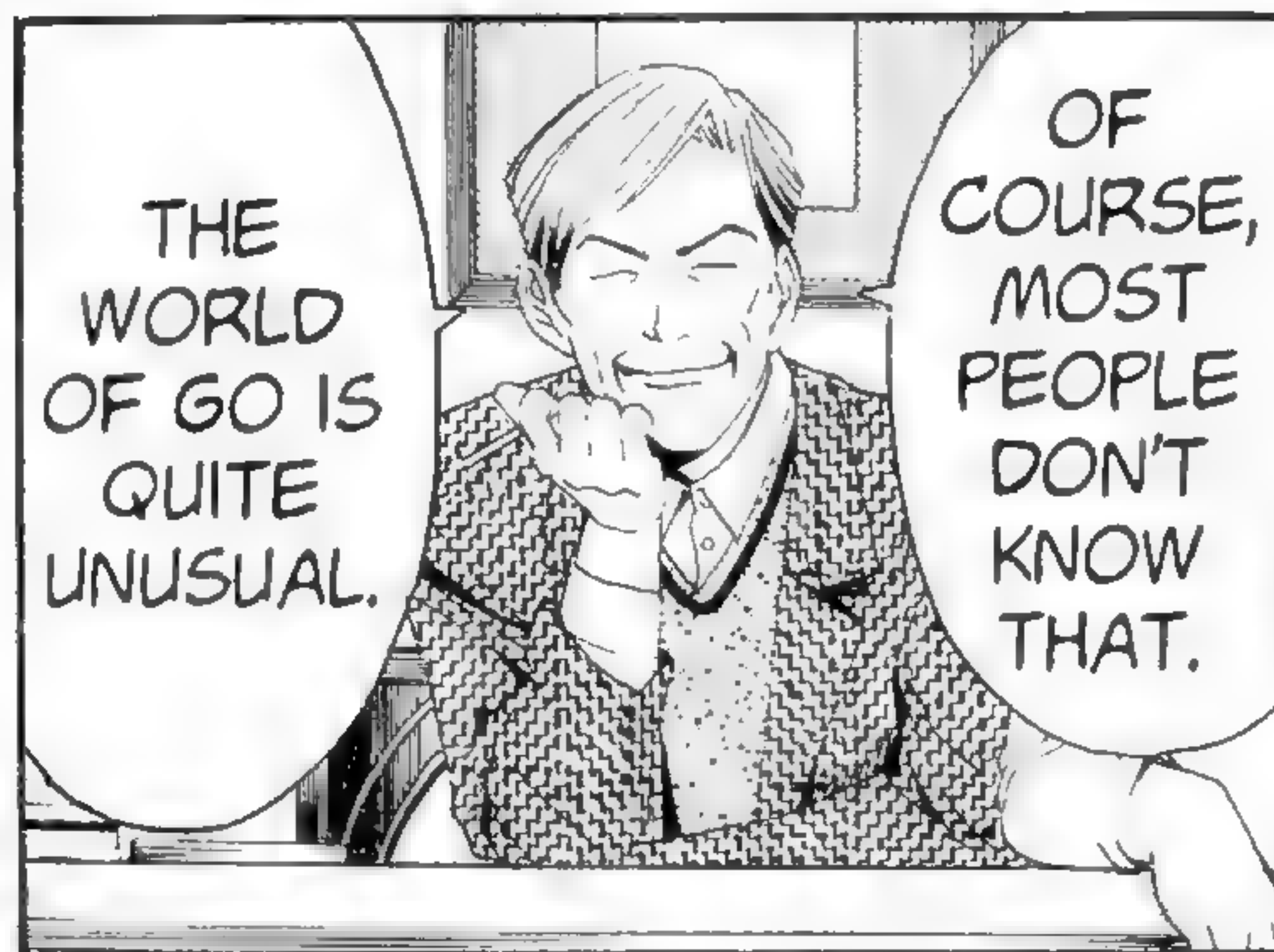
BUT  
THAT'S  
WHAT HE  
TOLD OUR  
TEACHER  
AT  
SCHOOL.



HUHH?























THAT'S THE  
DAY WE  
PLAYED  
ONLINE!

THE LAST  
SUNDAY IN  
AUGUST?



"I'M  
TALKING  
ABOUT  
HOW PAS-  
SIONATE  
YOU  
ARE IN  
PURSUING  
YOUR  
GOALS."

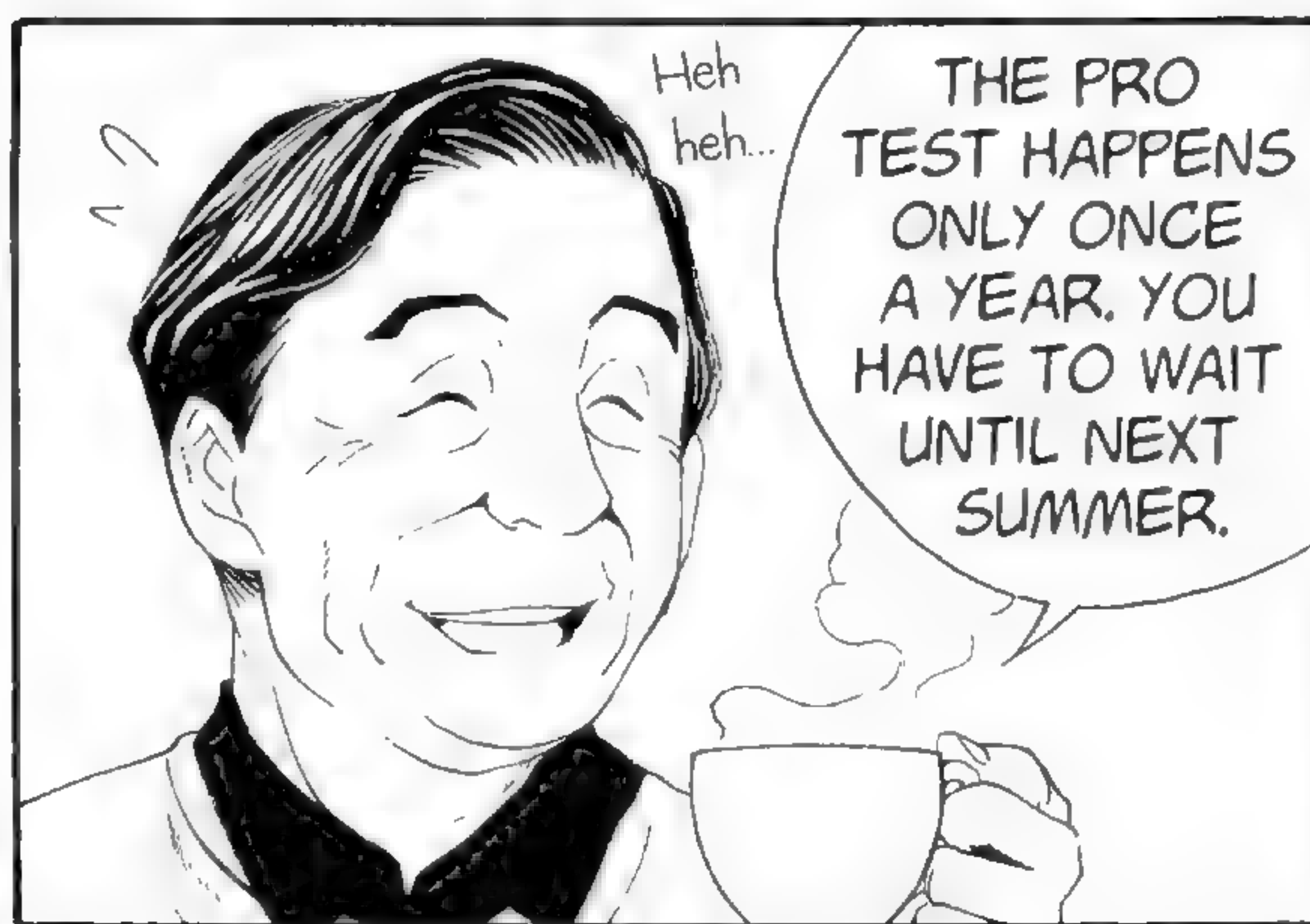
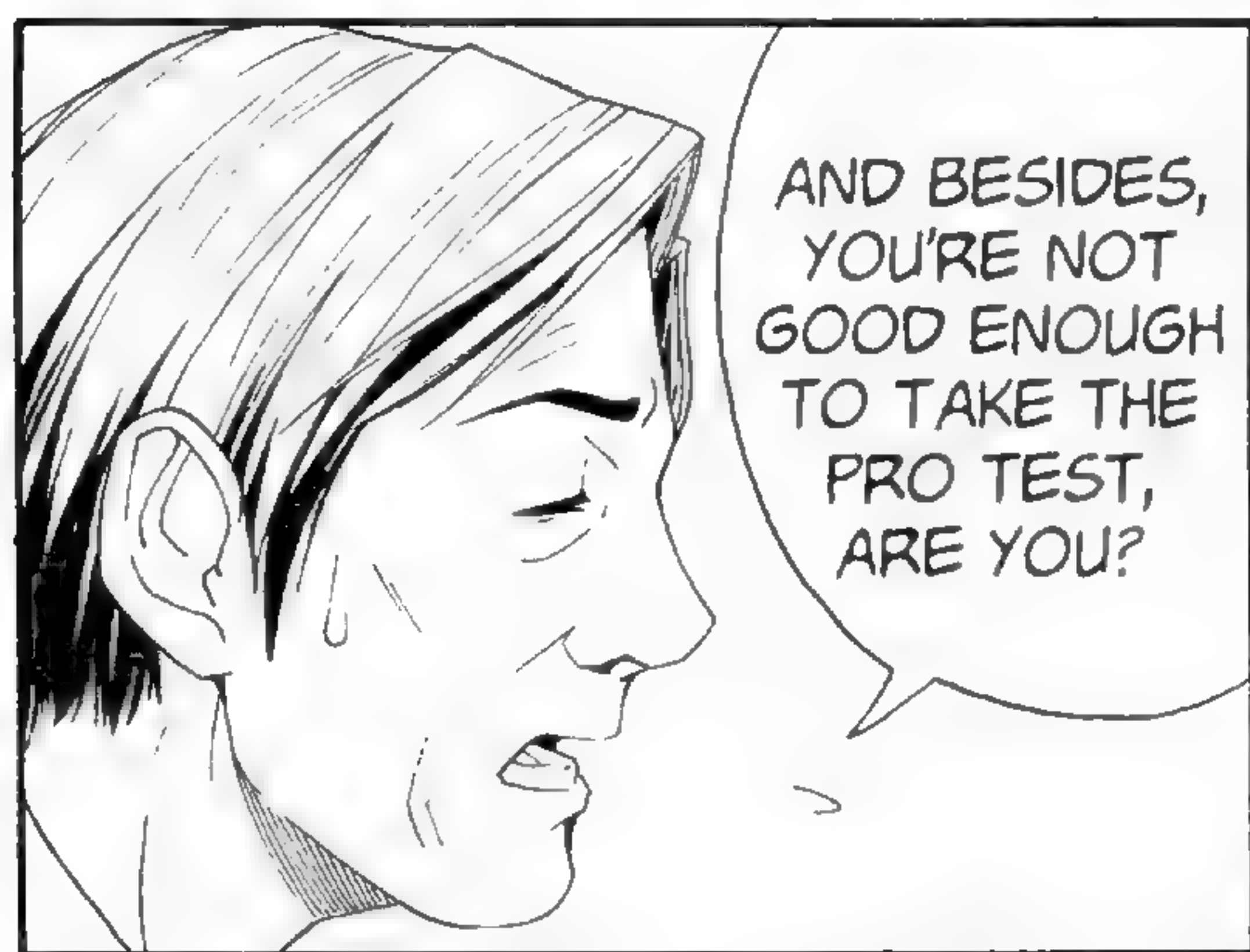
"AND I'M  
NOT  
TALKING  
ABOUT  
THE  
DIFFER-  
ENCE IN  
STRENGTH."

SKOOT



HEY,  
UMM...









RIGHT NOW,  
YOU AREN'T  
GOOD ENOUGH  
TO BECOME  
AN INSEI.



THE INSEI  
TEST  
HAPPENS  
FOUR TIMES  
A YEAR. THE  
NEXT ONE'S IN  
DECEMBER.

HA  
HA...

AFTER ALL,  
YOU HAVE  
TO PASS A  
TEST TO  
BECOME AN  
INSEI TOO,  
RIGHT?



AND OF  
COURSE  
YOU DON'T  
PASS IF  
YOU'RE  
JUST AN  
AVERAGE  
PLAYER.

RIGHT.

HOW DOES IT  
WORK, AGAIN?  
YOU PLAY A  
GAME WITH A  
PRO AND THEY  
JUDGE HOW  
STRONG YOU  
ARE?



"AND HE'S  
SURE TO  
ADVANCE  
FASTER  
THAN  
ANYONE."

"AKIRA  
GETS HIS  
START  
NEXT  
SPRING."





AND I HAVE TO  
PASS THE PRO  
TEST WITHOUT  
A SINGLE  
LOSS — EVEN  
THOUGH I  
DON'T REALLY  
KNOW WHAT  
THE PRO TEST  
IS LIKE YET.

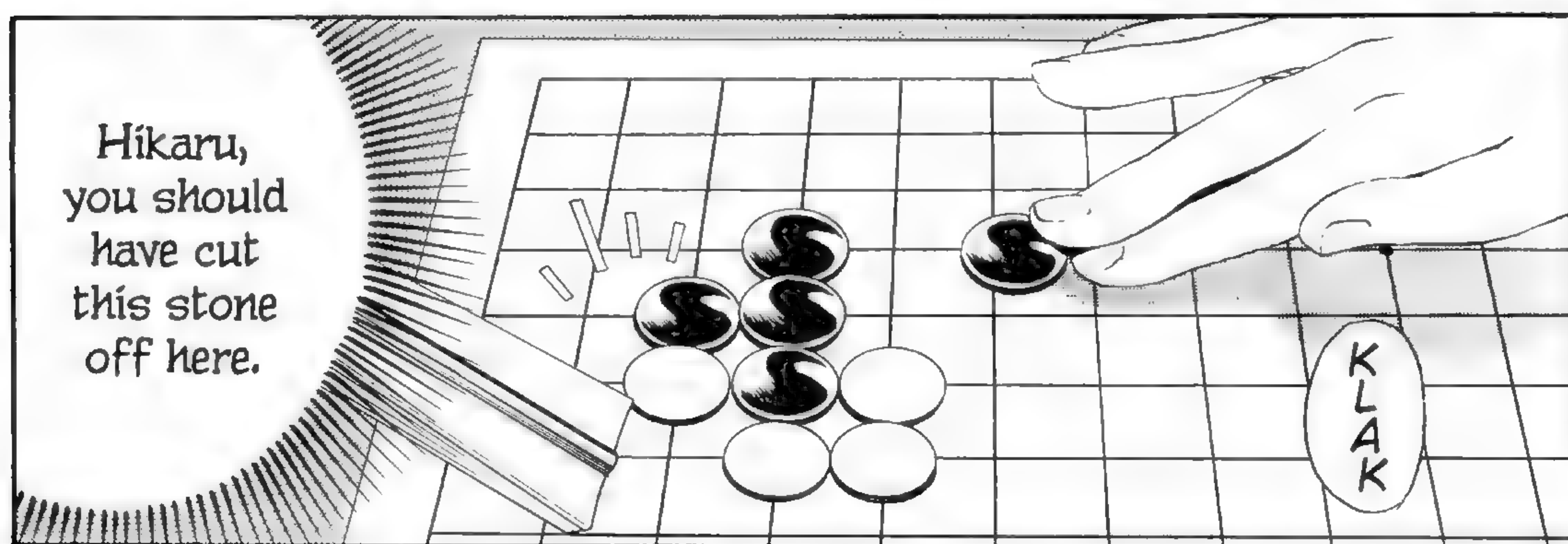
THEN  
I HAVE  
TO BEAT  
ALL THE  
INSEI.

IF I REALLY  
DO WANT TO  
CATCH UP TO  
HIM, I HAVE TO  
PASS THAT  
INSEI TEST.

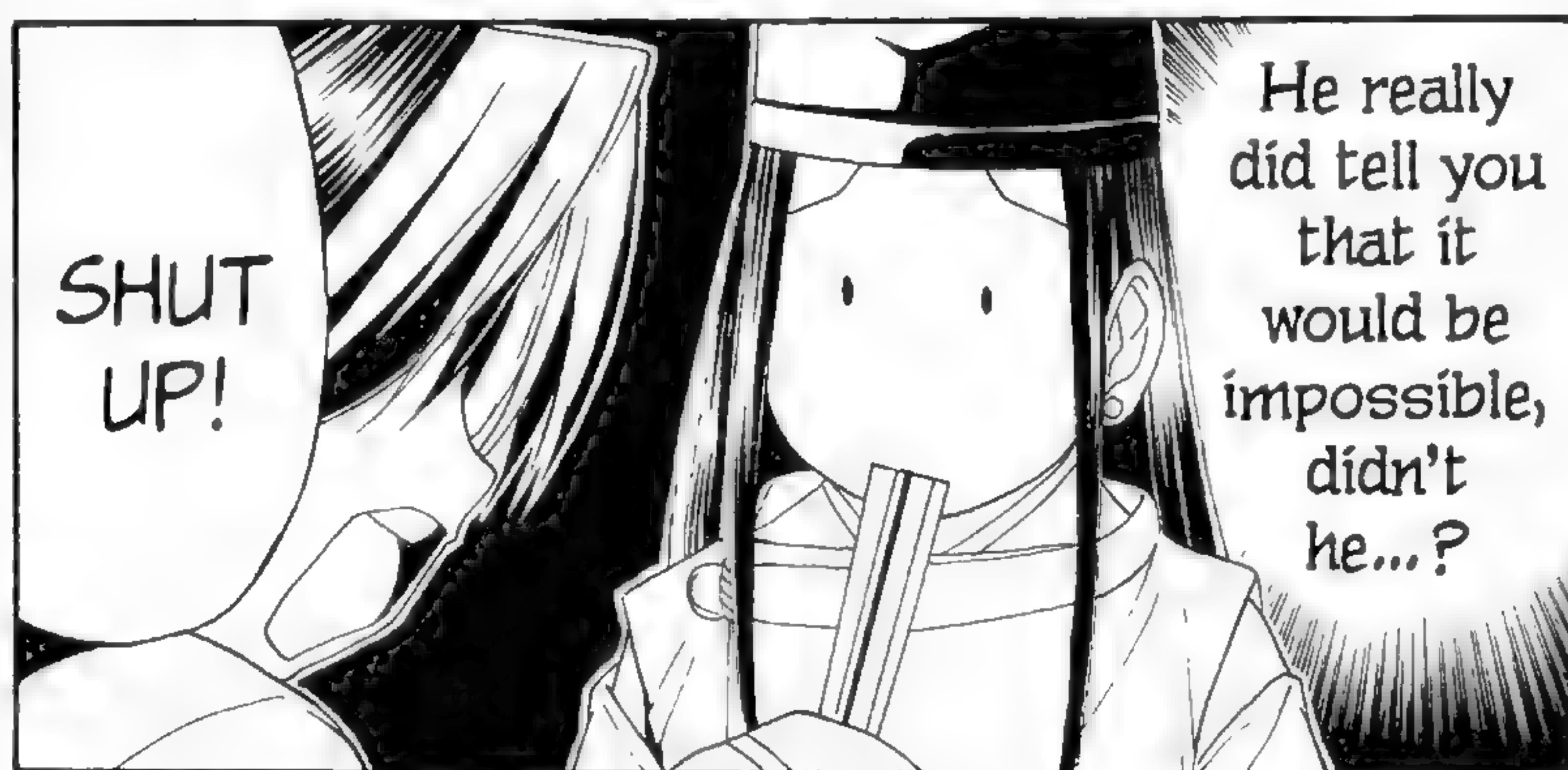
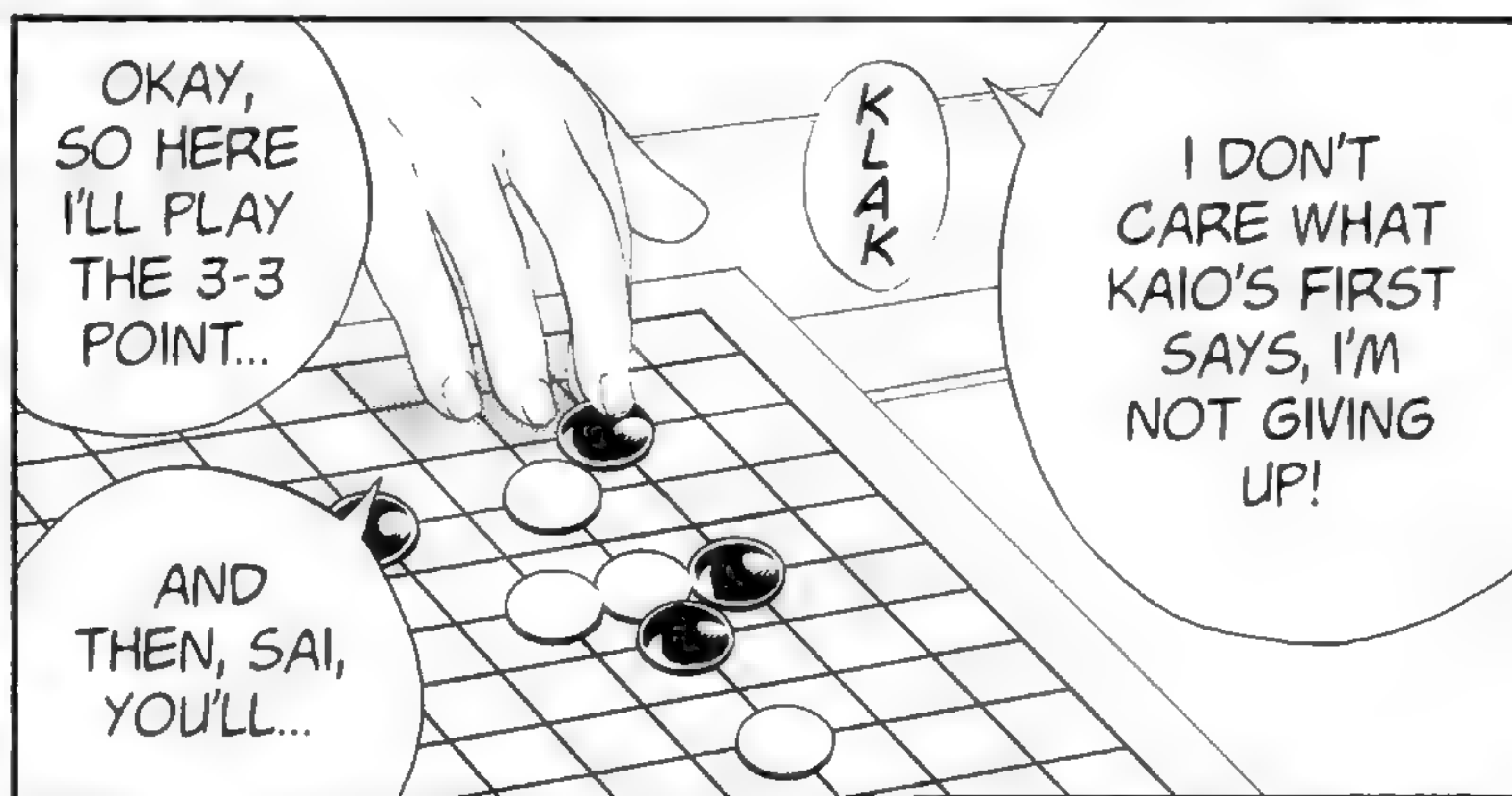
NOW I  
SEE THE  
DIFFERENCE  
BETWEEN  
AKIRA  
AND ME.















AT THE  
TOURNAMENT,  
AKIRA WAS SO  
INTIMIDATED BY  
YOUR STRENGTH  
THAT HE WAS  
TREMBLING. BUT  
HE STILL STOOD  
UP TO FACE  
YOU.

BESIDES,  
HE'S NOT  
GOING TO  
GIVE UP  
CHASING  
AFTER YOU,  
SAI...



DO YOU THINK  
I SHOULDN'T HAVE  
PLAYED THE  
DIAGONAL HERE?  
SHOULD I HAVE  
EXTENDED?

.....



It's not  
impossible.





Indeed...

It's not  
impossible.



Now it's  
your turn  
to chase  
after Akira  
Toya.

That's right,  
Hikaru...



# A WORD ABOUT HIKARU NO GO

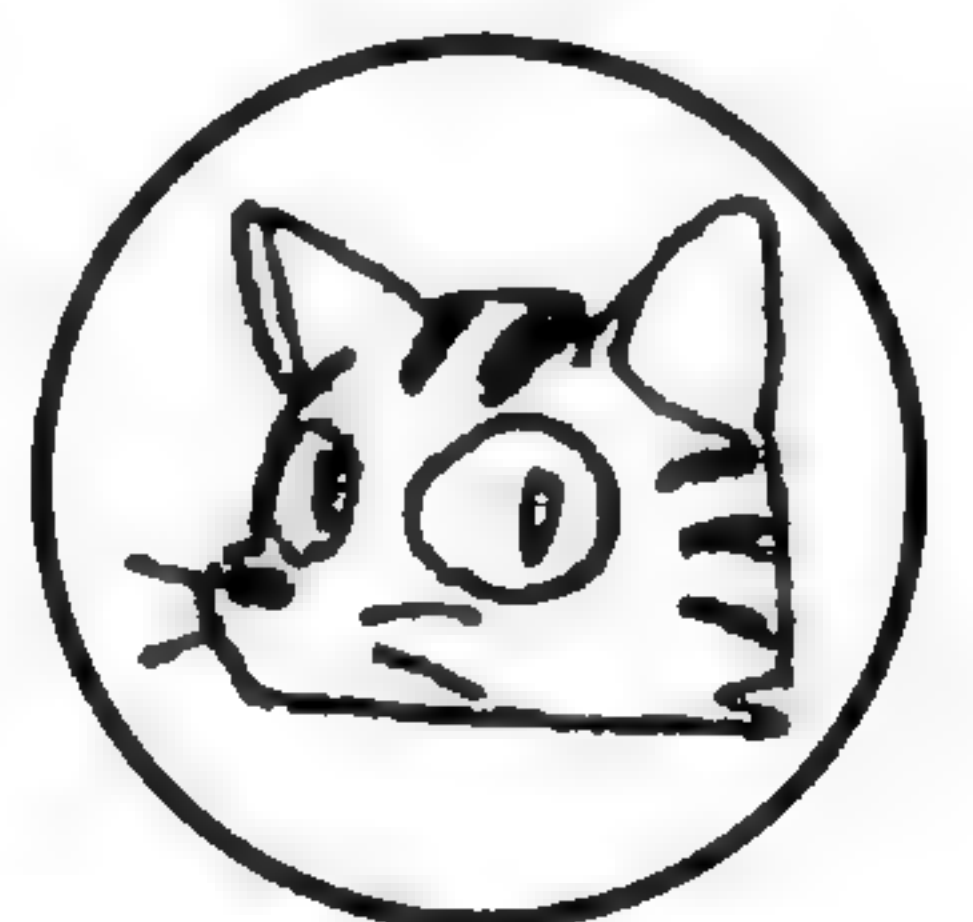
## THE VALUE OF GO BOARDS



THE BOARD ALONE WOULD COST ABOUT ¥35,000.\*

THE HIGHEST-QUALITY GO BOARD WOULD COST MILLIONS OF YEN. EVEN PROFESSIONAL GO PLAYERS CAN'T AFFORD ONE. SO WHO CAN?

\*ABOUT US \$340





Game 41 "The Go Club Is Heating Up!"











BUT  
FIRST I  
HAVE TO  
FIND OUT  
HOW TO  
TAKE THE  
EXAM TO  
GET IN.

But Hikaru,  
I think that  
you'll make  
friends and  
rivals who  
will help you  
improve your  
game!



ALL  
RIGHT!  
Let's go!

These are  
all steps you  
must take to  
get closer to  
Akira Toya!  
Let's go,  
Hikaru!



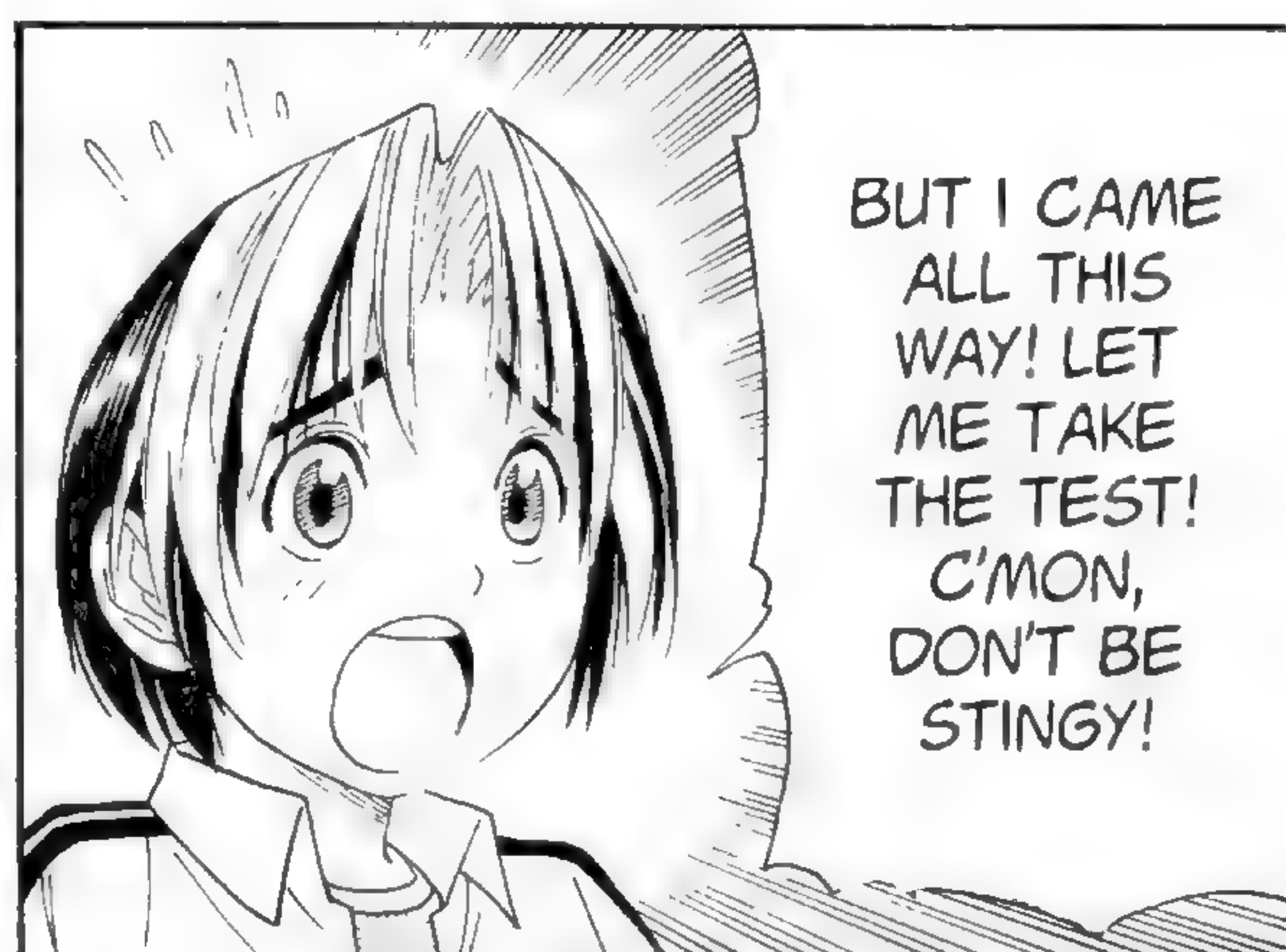
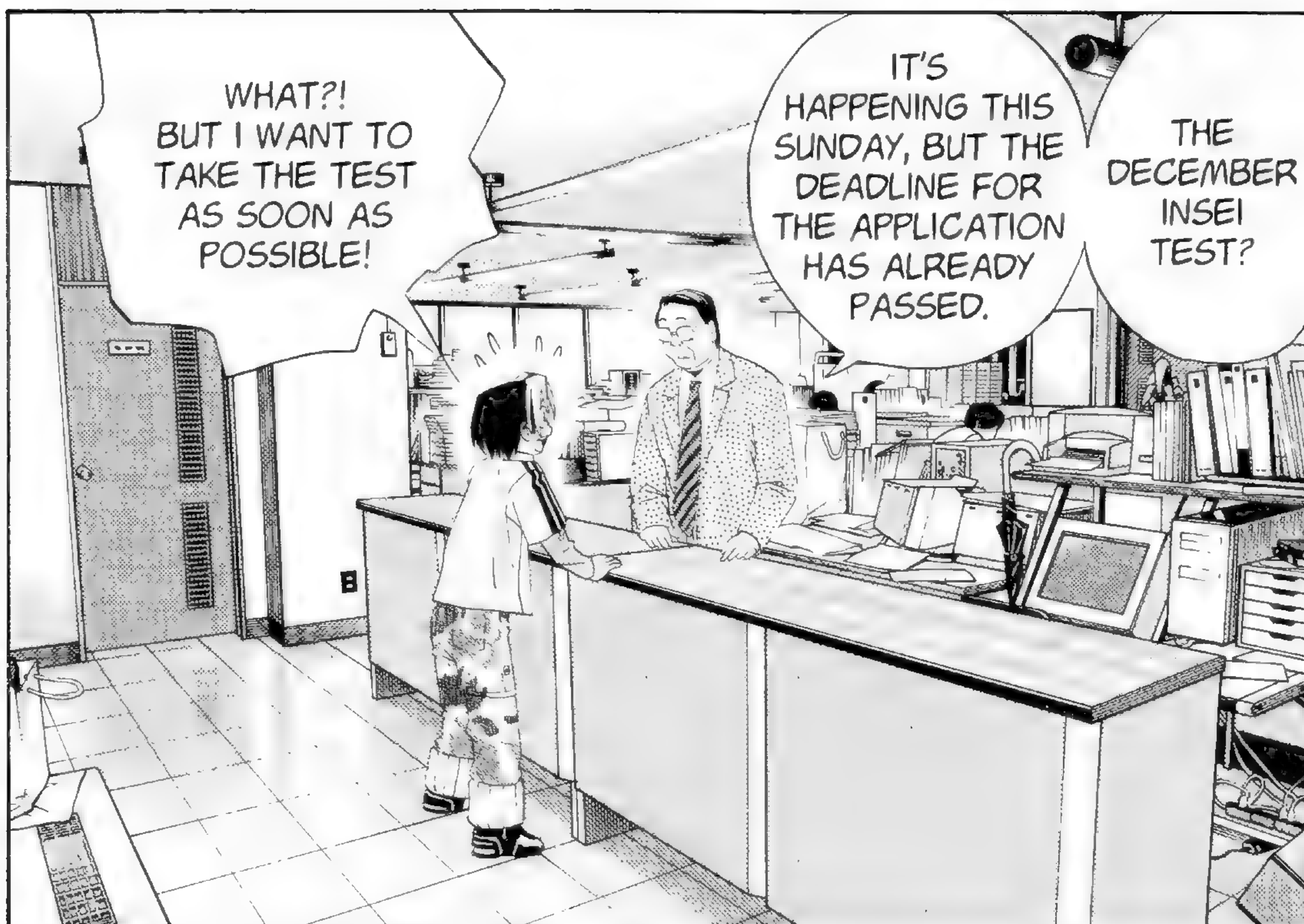
C'MON,  
SAI!

Look,  
Hikaru!

Wow!

Hey! Look at  
this! It's just  
like the one  
I saw before!  
There's fake  
fish in here  
that look  
completely  
real!

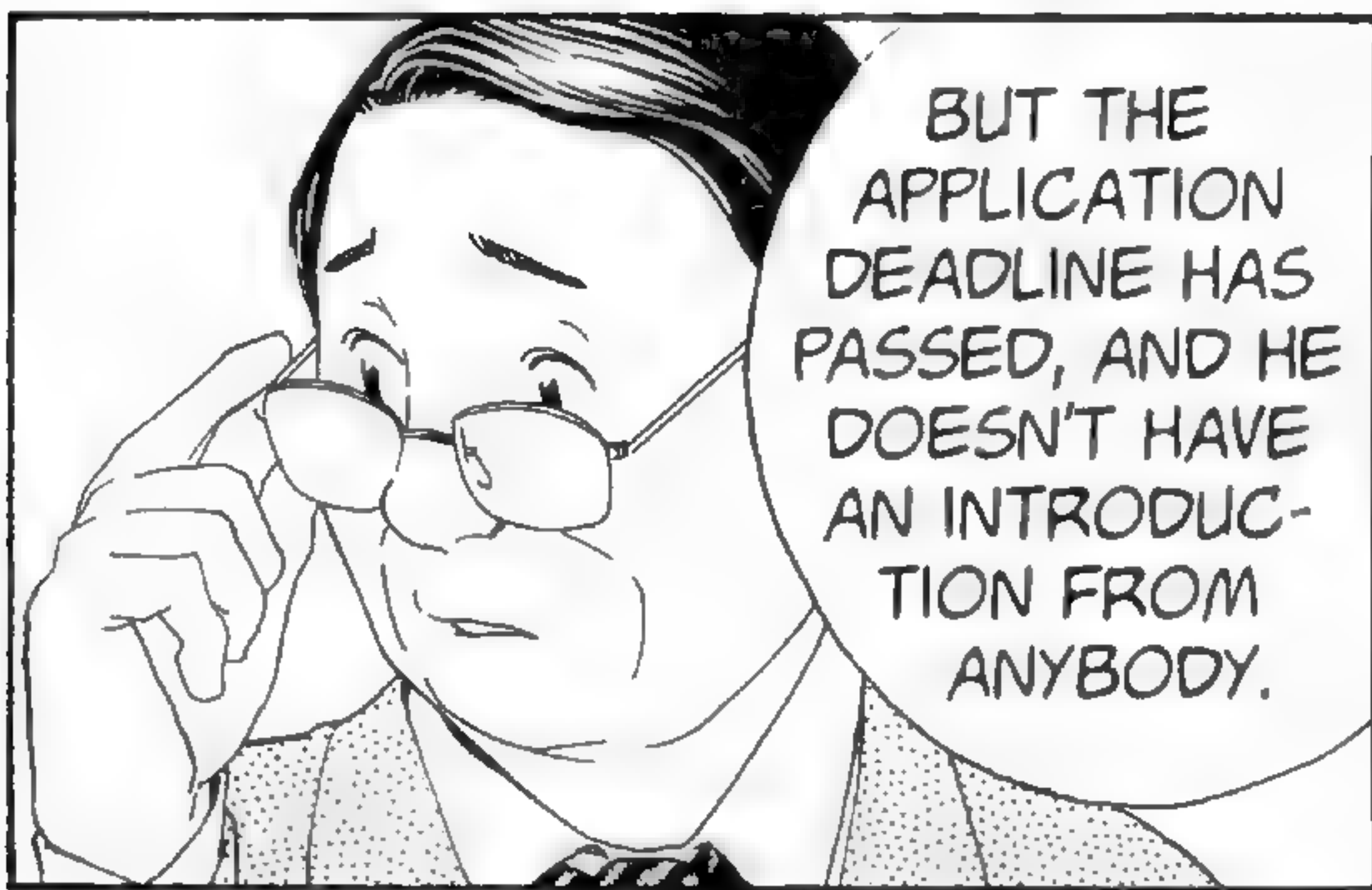




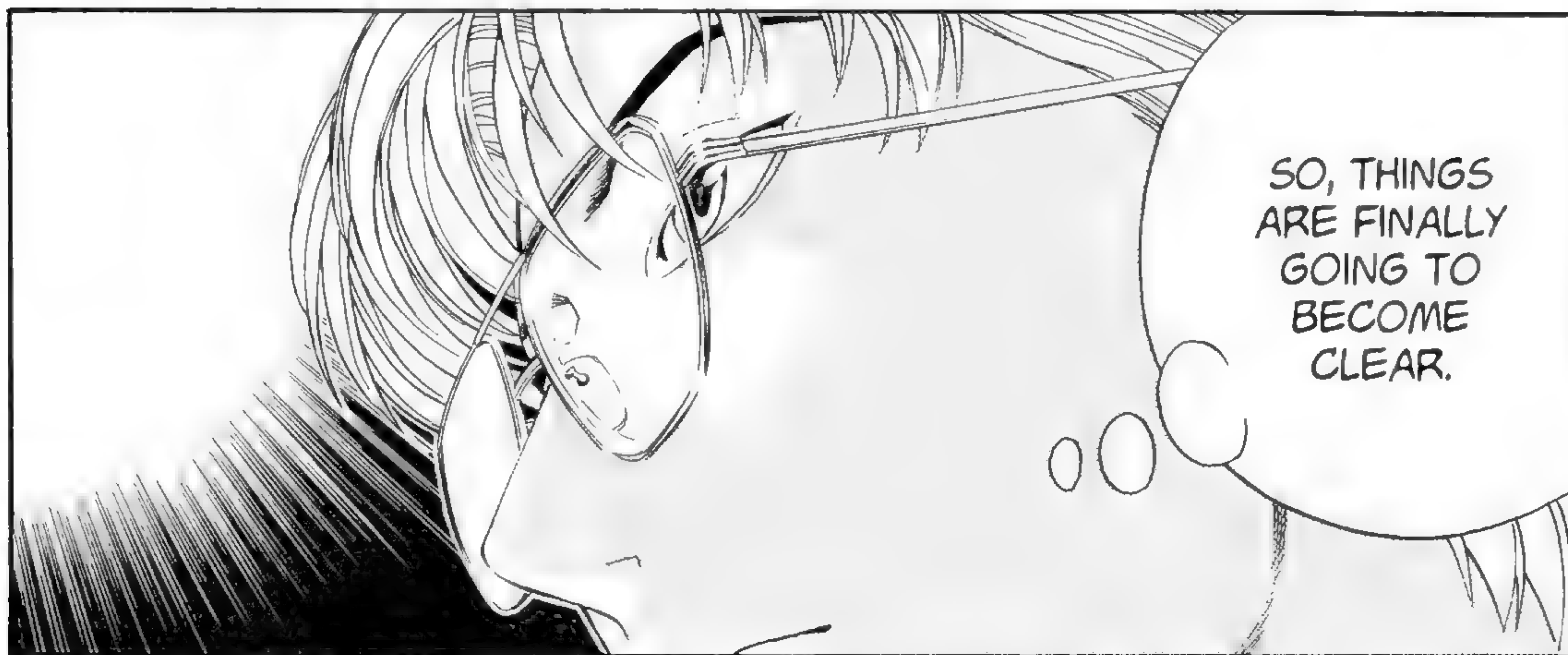




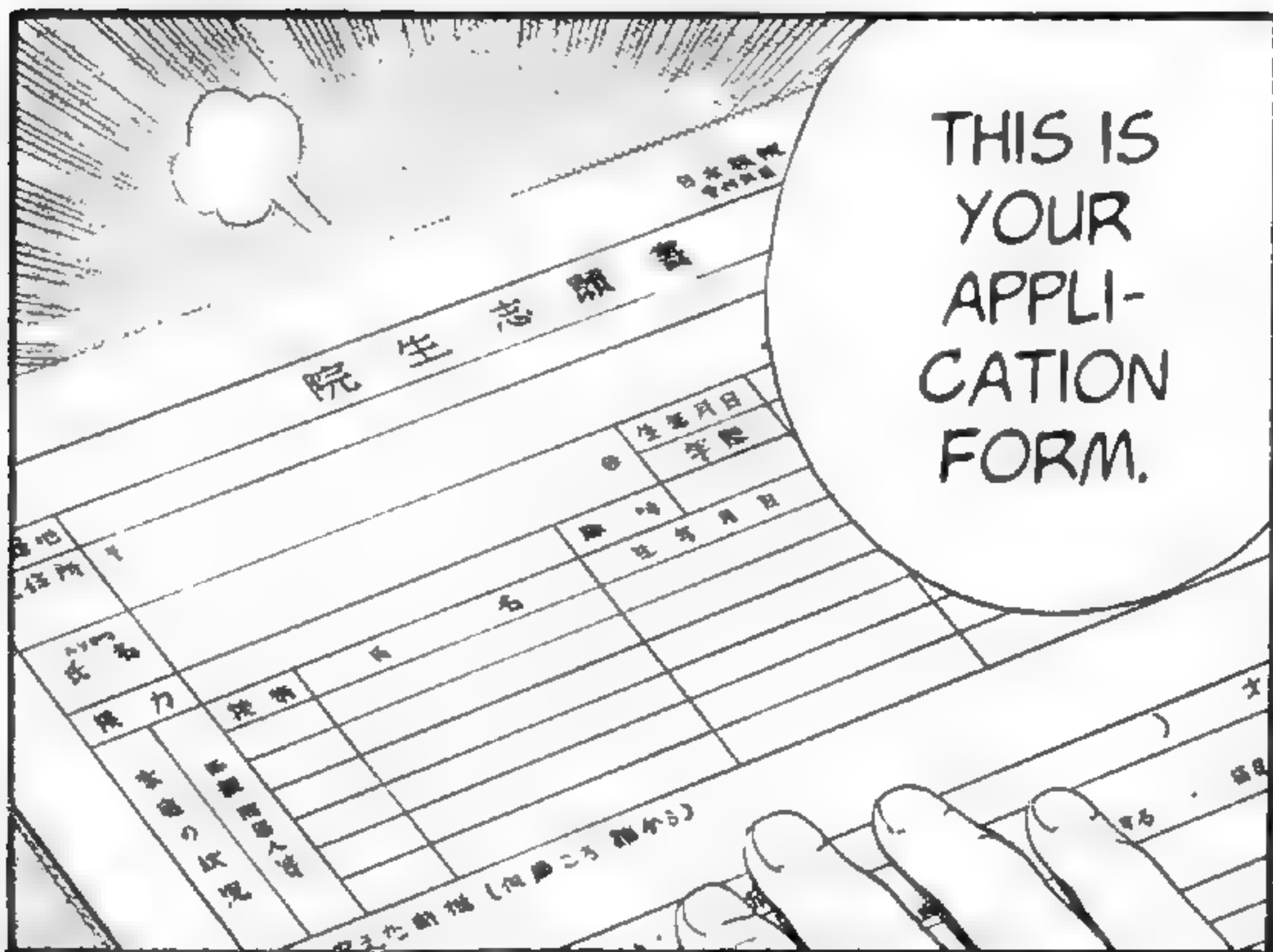




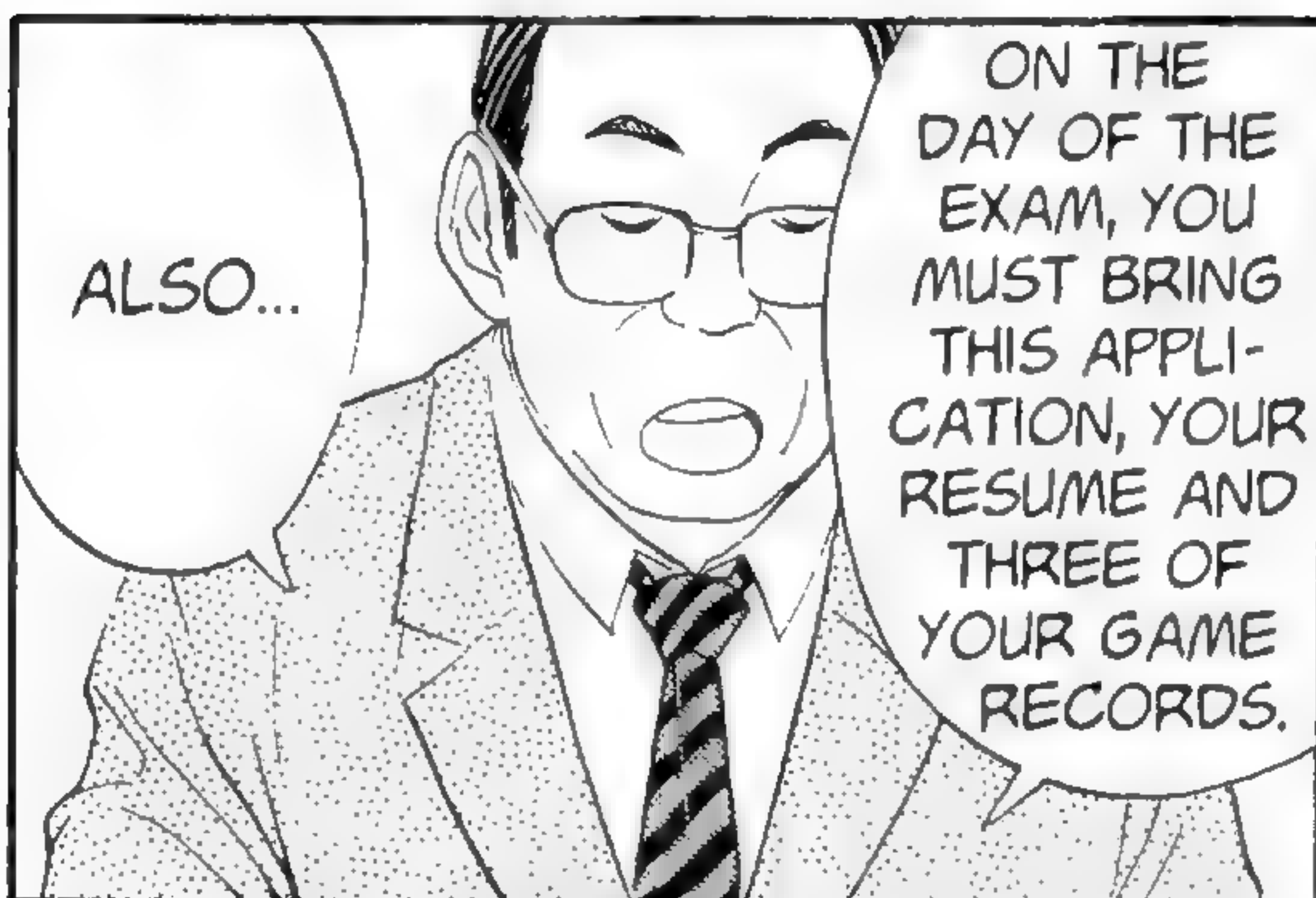








THIS IS  
YOUR  
APPLI-  
CATION  
FORM.



ALSO...

ON THE  
DAY OF THE  
EXAM, YOU  
MUST BRING  
THIS APPLI-  
CATION, YOUR  
RESUME AND  
THREE OF  
YOUR GAME  
RECORDS.



WHY IN THE  
WORLD WOULD  
OGATA SENSEI  
RECOMMEND  
THIS KID?

"DARN GUY"?  
YOU MUST  
BE MORE  
CAREFUL WITH  
YOUR WORDS!

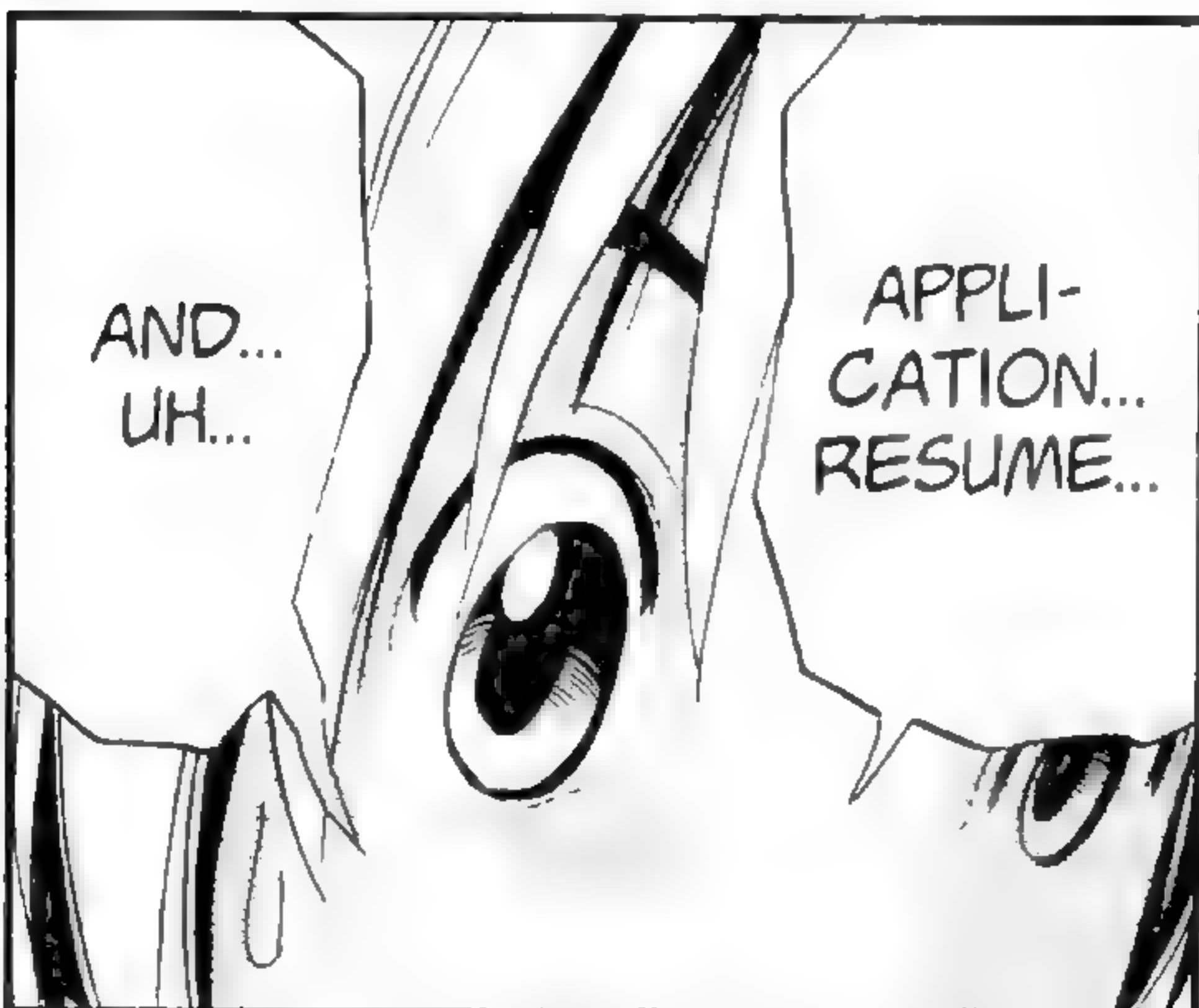


MY  
PARENTS  
?!  
  
AND  
YOU MUST  
COME  
WITH YOUR  
PARENTS.

WHAT?! THAT  
MUCH?

...THERE IS  
AN APPLICATION  
FEE, AS WELL AS  
A FEE TO PLAY  
A TEST GAME.  
ALTOGETHER IT  
COMES TO  
¥13,650.\*

\*About US \$130



AND...  
UH...

APPLI-  
CATION...  
RESUME...



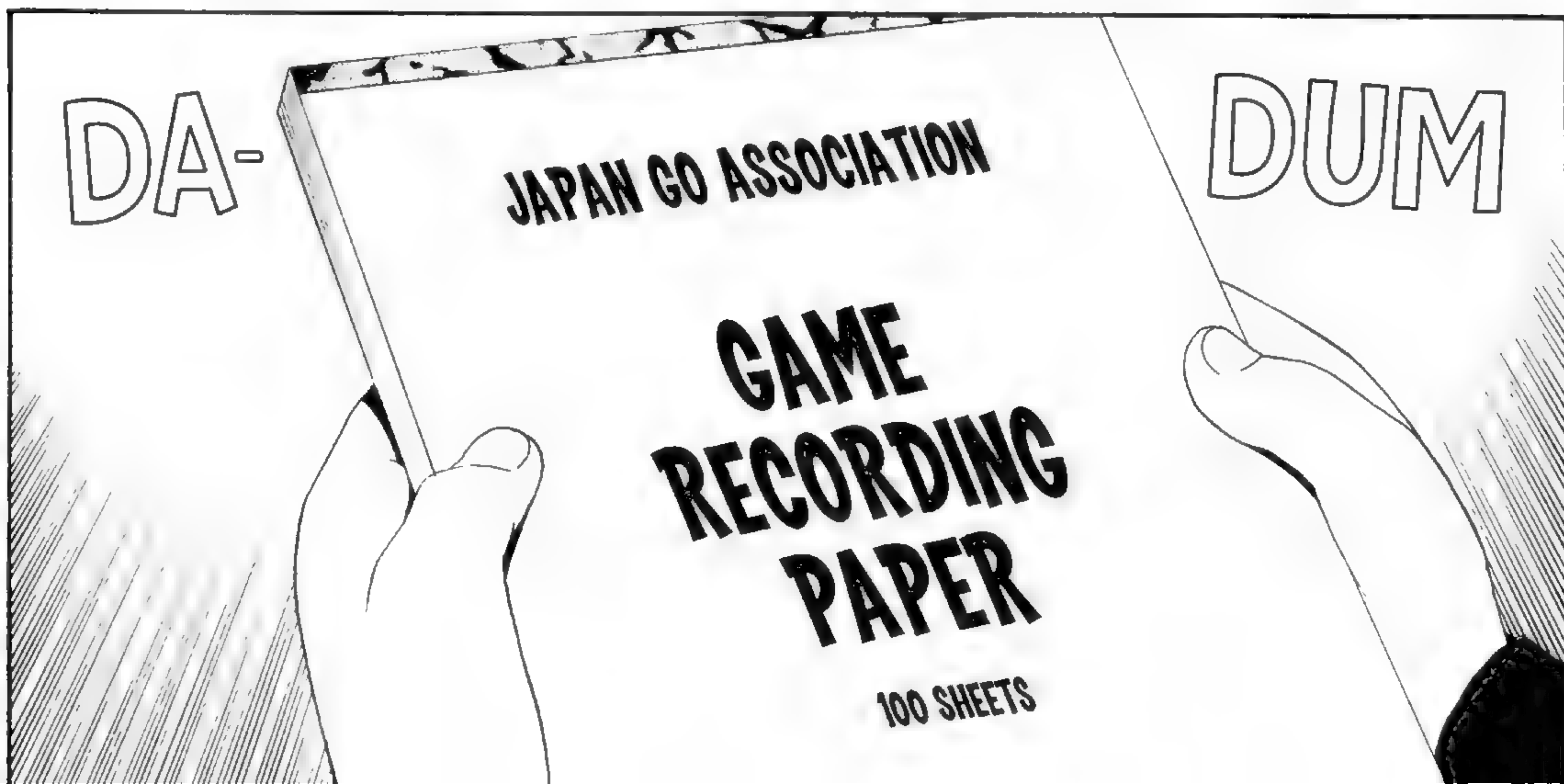
COR-  
RECT.  
GOT  
ALL  
THAT?

¥13,650?!  
BRING MY  
PARENTS?!  
  
AND...  
UH...













BUT HOW DO  
I ACTUALLY  
FILL THIS  
THING OUT?

SO, PEOPLE  
RECORD  
THE GAMES  
THEY'VE  
PLAYED ON  
THESE.



AKIRA...

IT'S THE  
PATH  
THAT  
LEADS  
TO YOU.



OH WELL.  
I'M SURE  
KIMIHIRO OR  
YUKI WILL  
KNOW HOW.

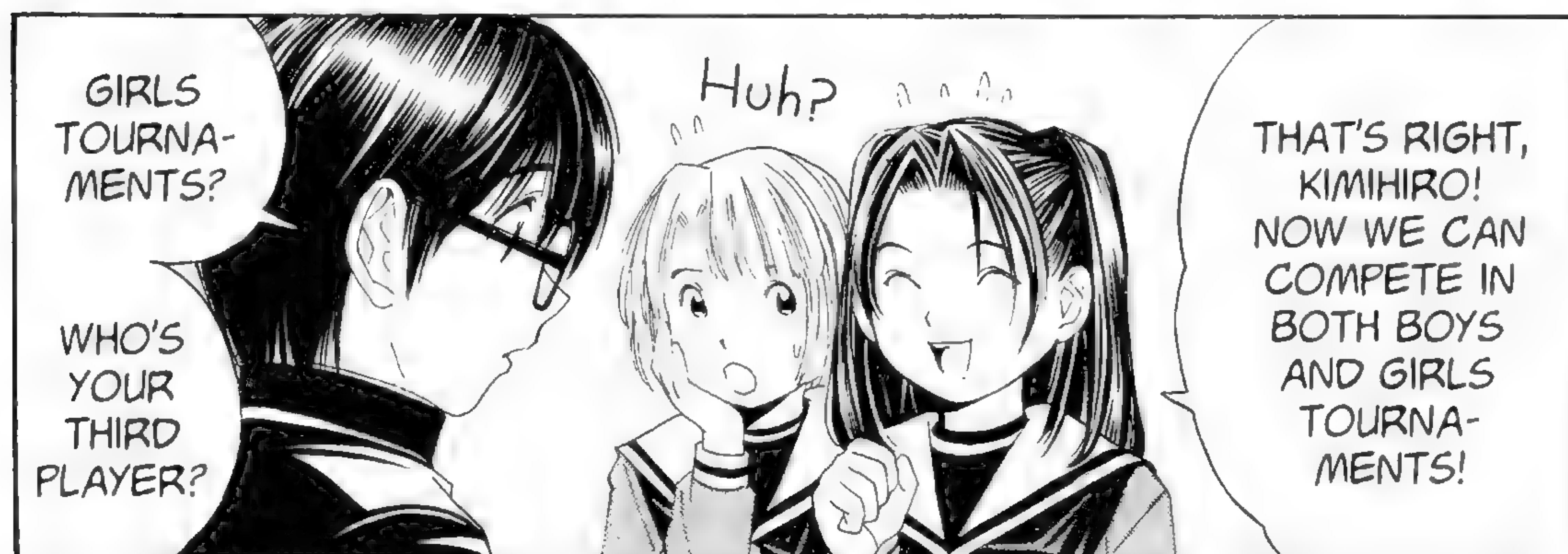
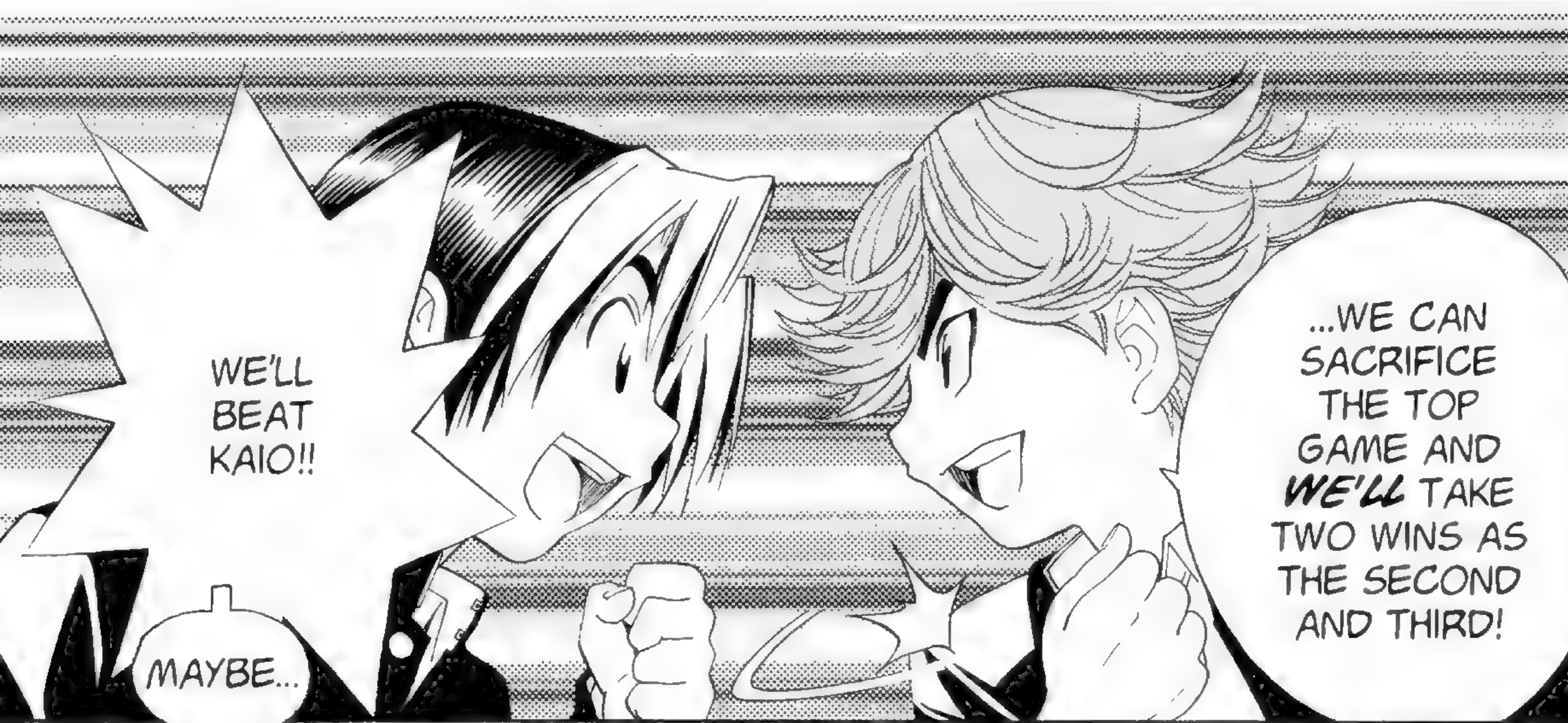


I'M  
BEGIN-  
NING  
TO SEE  
THE  
PATH...





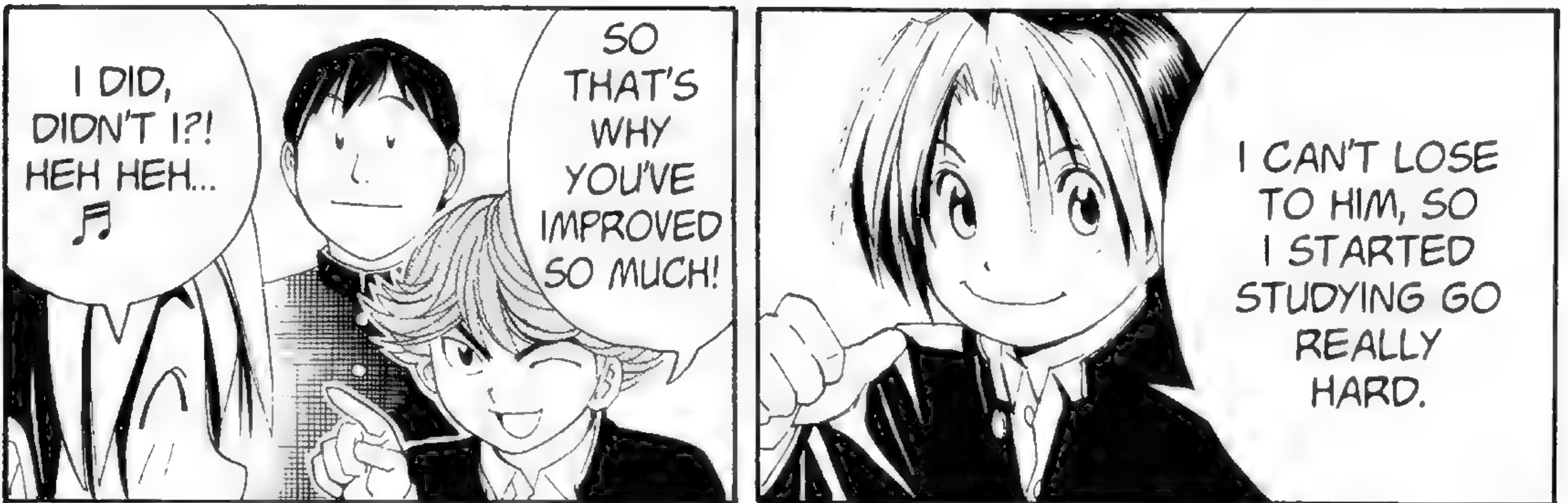
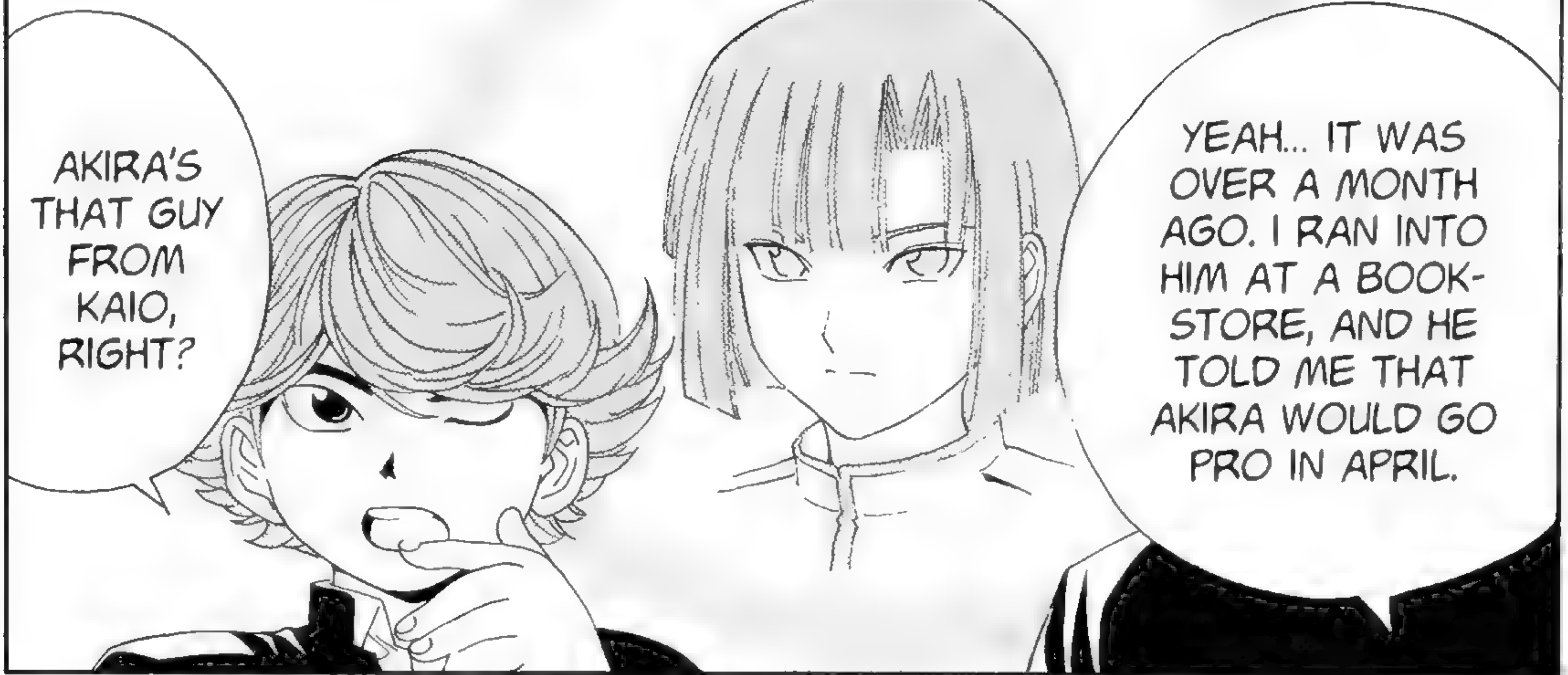












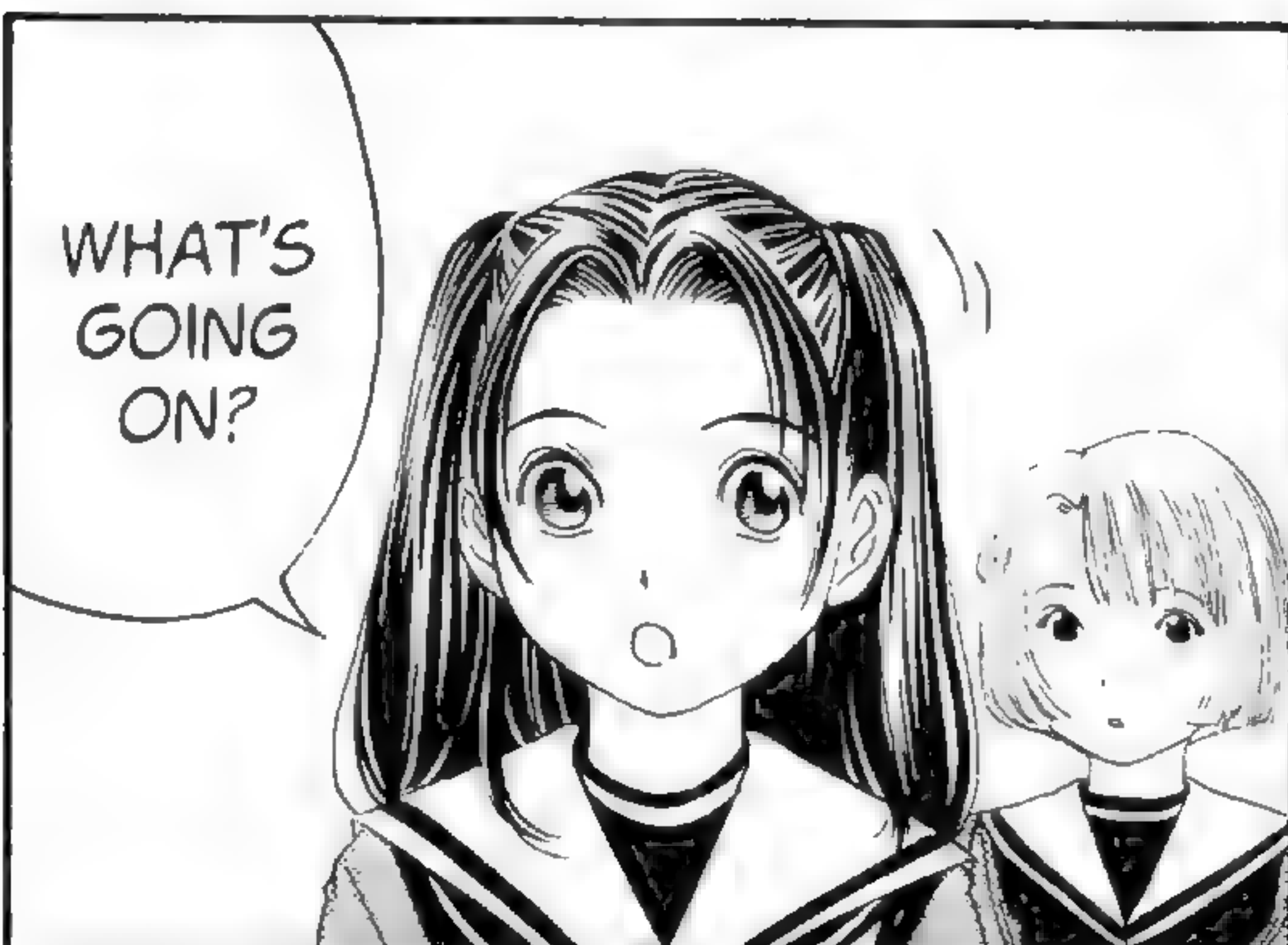


















# A WORD ABOUT HIKARU NO GO

## MANGA PRINT TYPES

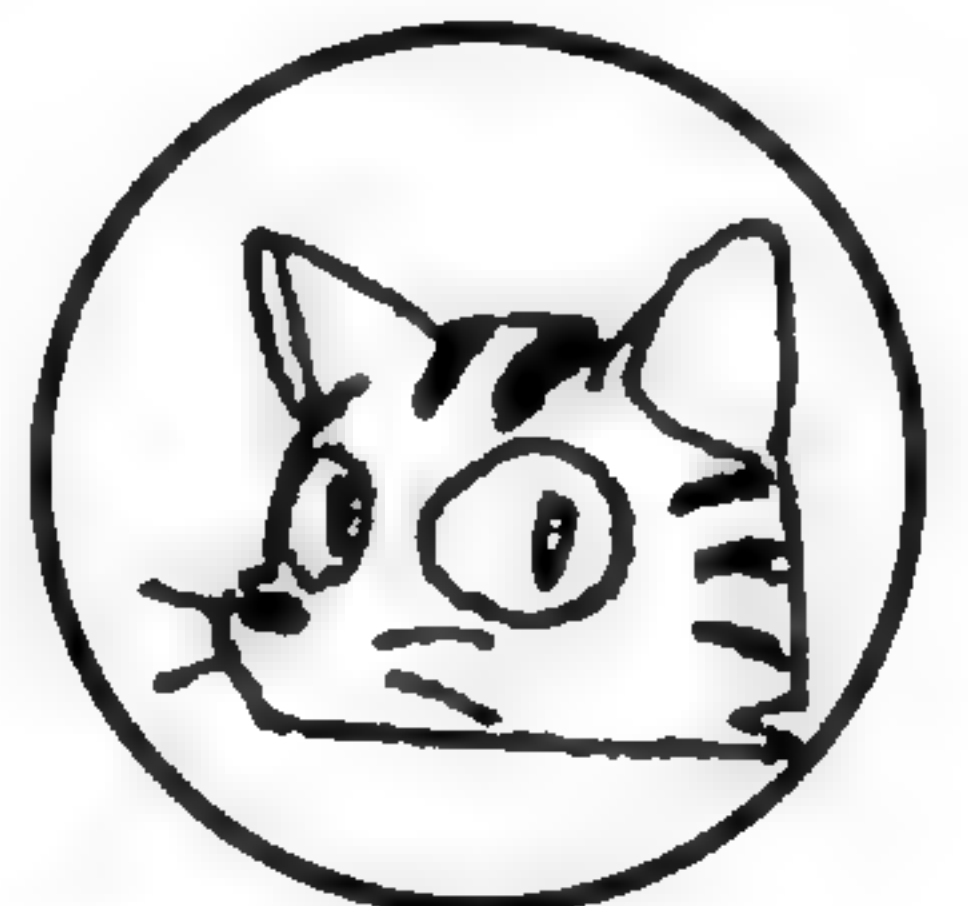


THE ABOVE PANEL SHOWS THREE DIFFERENT KINDS OF PRINT TYPES (OR FONTS).

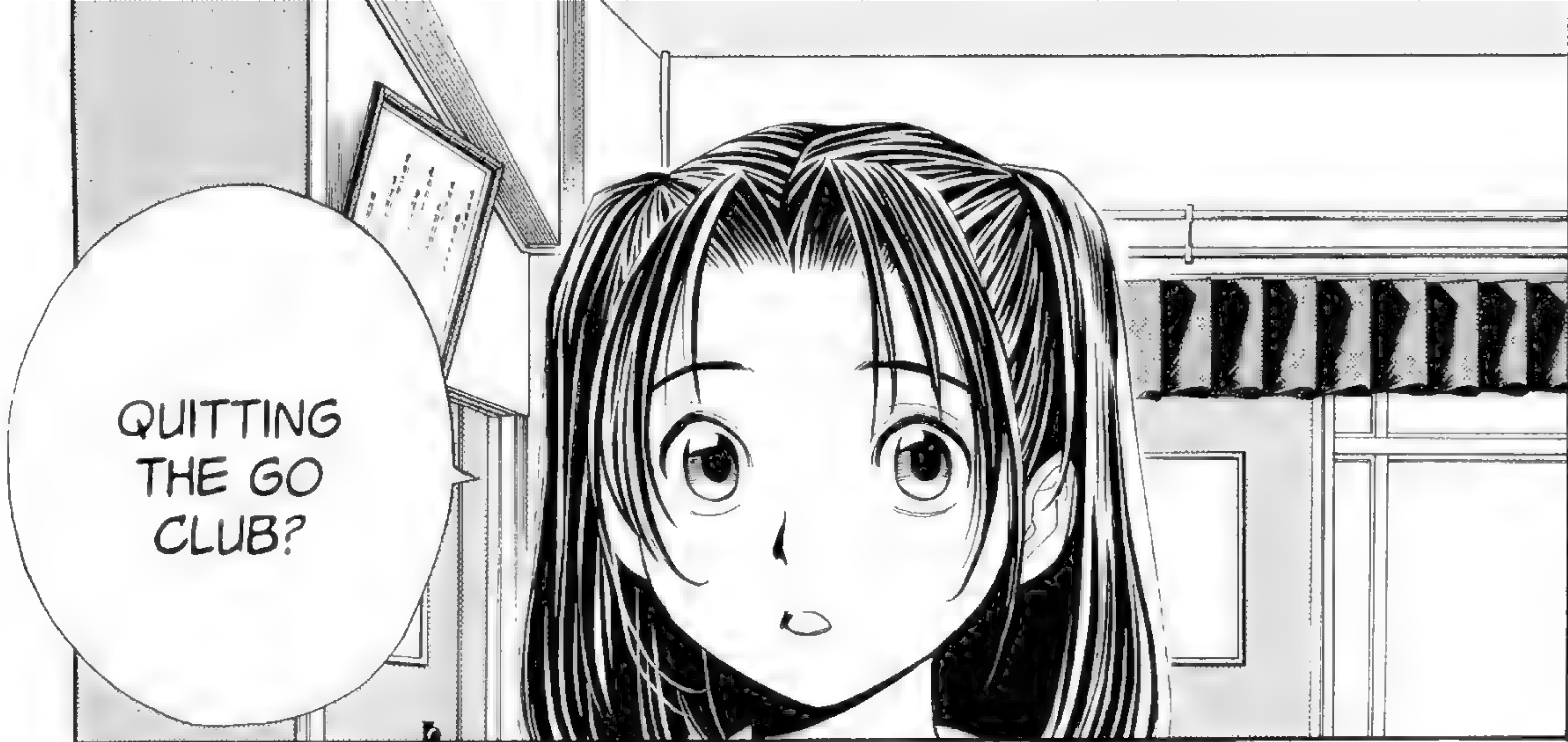
THE EDITOR OF A GIVEN TITLE DECIDES ON THE STYLE AND SIZE OF THE FONTS. THEY MUST CHOOSE FROM OVER 2,000 DIFFERENT STYLES.

THE FONT IS A PART OF THE MANGA.

HIKARU'S LINE, "THIS IS GETTING TO BE A PAIN!" IS SET IN AN EXASPERATED STYLE. SAI'S LINES ARE ALWAYS DONE IN A SLIGHTLY GHOSTLY (?) TYPE. IT'S FUN TO COMPARE THE DIFFERENT FONT STYLES.







QUITTING  
THE GO  
CLUB?



Game 42: "Resolutions"

HIKARU...

YOU'RE  
QUITTING  
THE GO  
CLUB?



I NEVER  
MEANT  
TO LEAVE  
THE GO  
CLUB...

ER...  
UH...

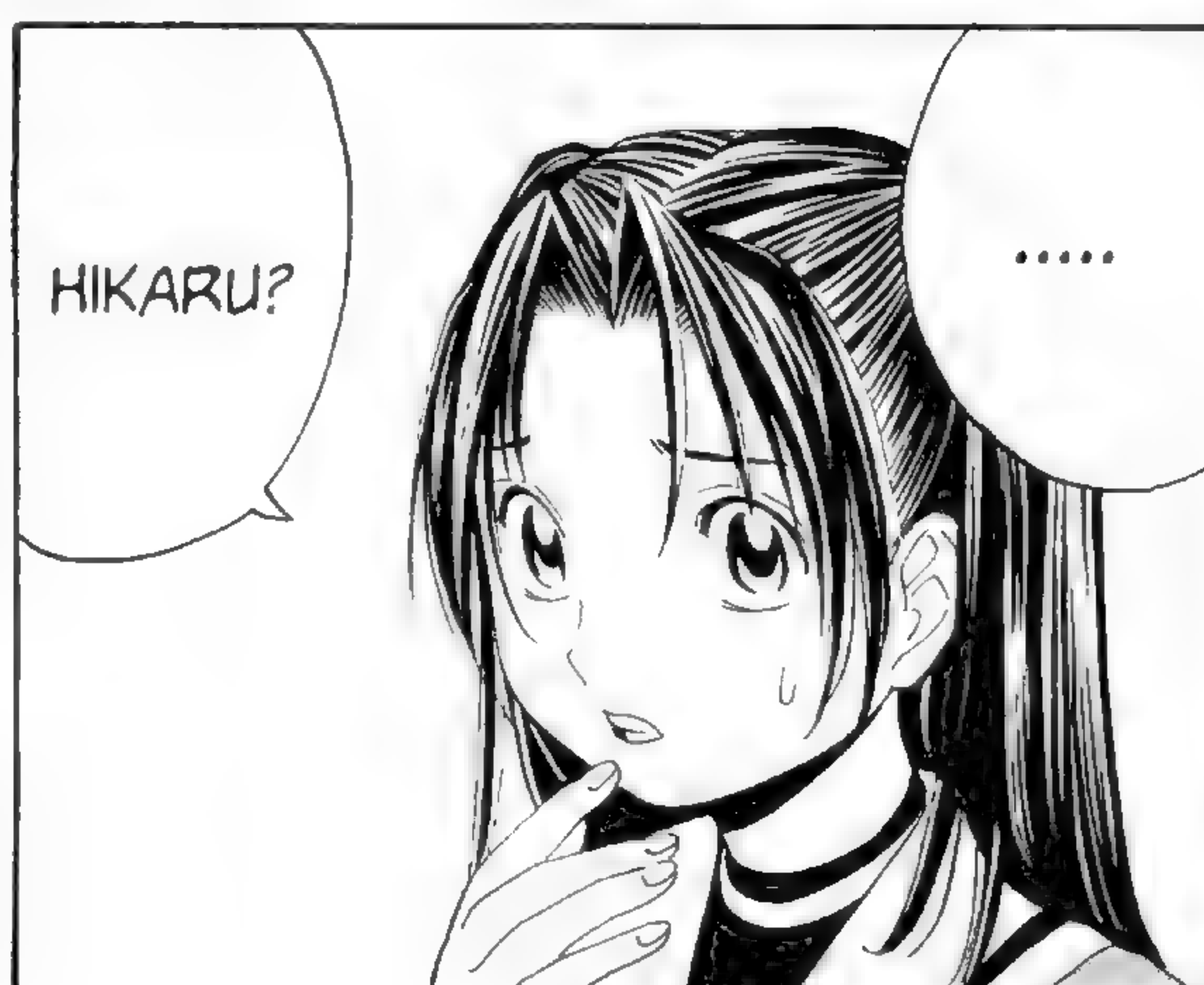


# Game 42



“Resolutions”













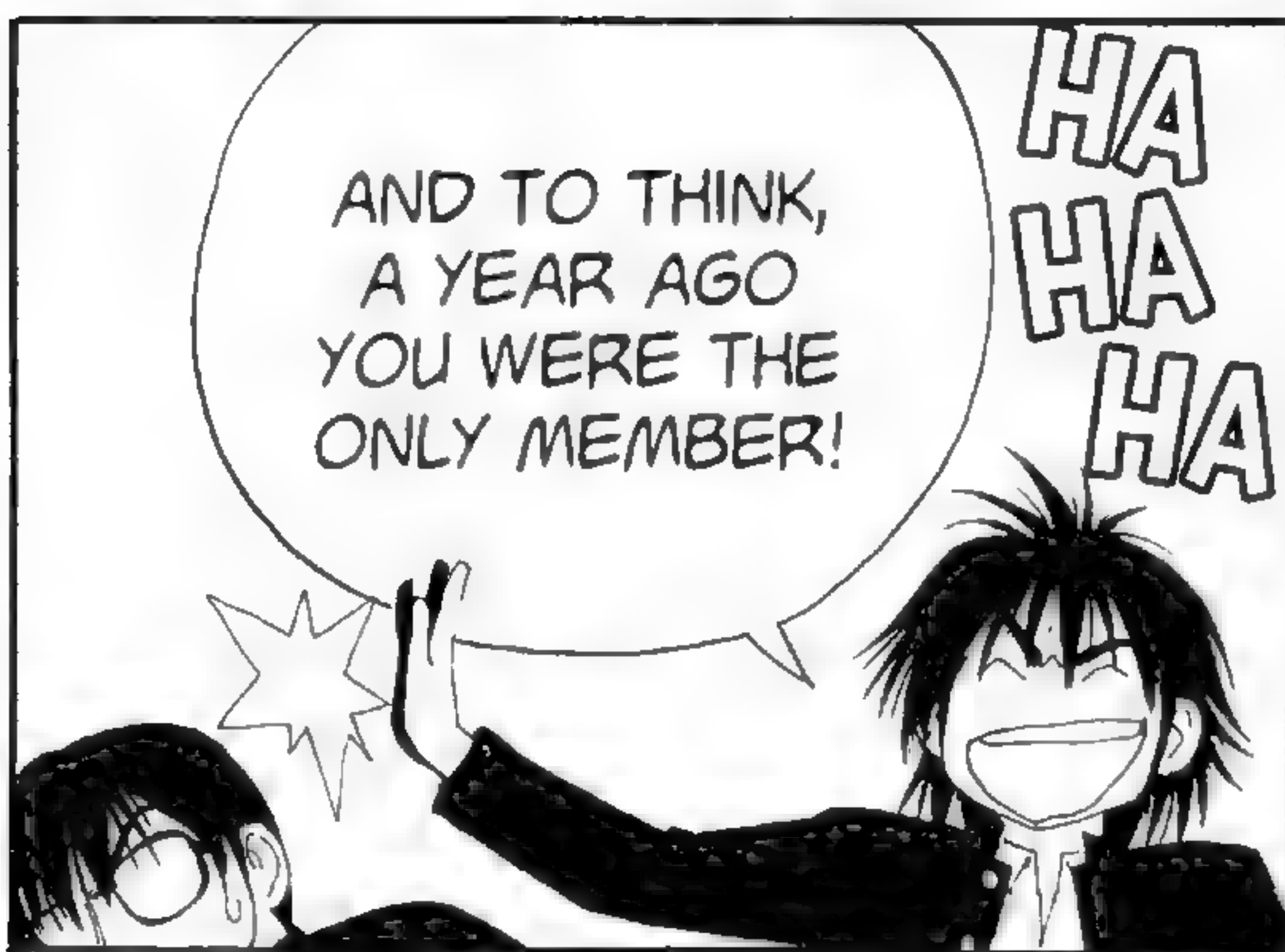
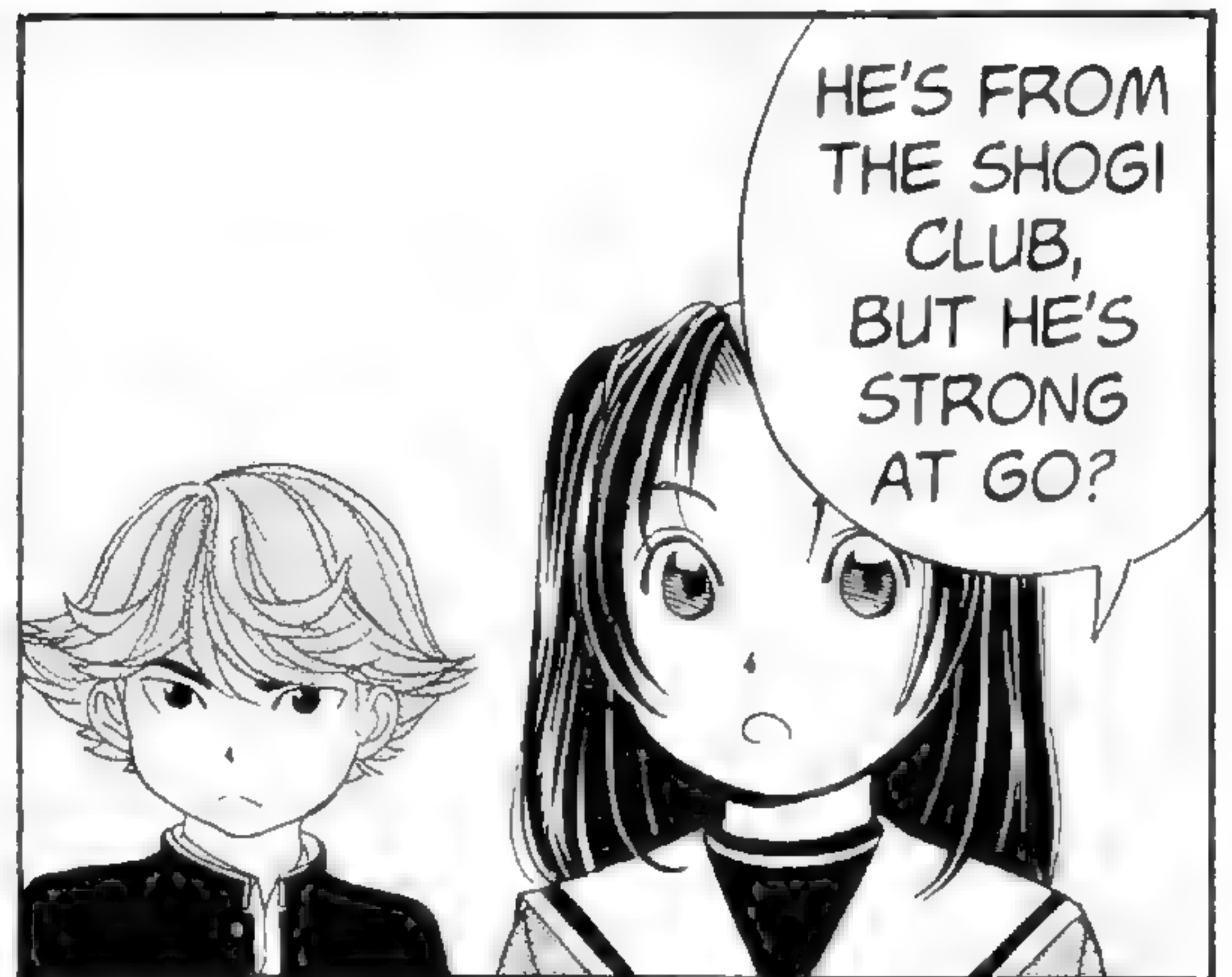














SO,  
WHY THE  
LONG  
FACE?

WHOA!  
THE INSEI  
TEST, HUH?  
GO FOR IT!

PESKY  
LITTLE  
PUNK...

WHAT DO YOU  
MEAN, "WHO  
CARES ABOUT  
TOURNAMENTS?"  
WHO ASKED  
YOU, ANYWAY?!

I FORGOT THAT  
ONCE I BECOME  
AN INSEI, I WON'T  
BE ABLE TO PLAY  
IN TOURNAMENTS.

INSEI,  
HUH...?

TOURNA-  
MENTS?  
WHO CARES  
ABOUT  
TOURNA-  
MENTS?

HIKARU WANTS  
TO BEAT AKIRA  
TOYA. AND IT  
SAYS HERE THAT  
AKIRA PASSED  
THE PRO TEST  
THIS YEAR.

AKIRA  
TOYA?

MONTHLY  
GO WORLD

IF THE KID  
WANTS TO  
BECOME AN  
INSEI, THEN  
HE'S PROBABLY  
AIMING HIGHER  
THAN ANY  
SCHOOL TOUR-  
NAMENT.





TETSUO,  
ARE *YOU* GETTING  
SERIOUS ABOUT  
THE HIGH SCHOOL  
ENTRANCE EXAMS  
THAT ARE THREE  
MONTHS  
AWAY?

UNLIKE YOU,  
I'LL PASS  
*WITHOUT*  
STUDYING!

NO  
WAY.



THE  
SOONER  
HE GETS  
SERIOUS  
AND GOES  
AFTER  
AKIRA THE  
BETTER.

IF HIKARU  
WANTS TO  
GO AFTER  
AKIRA, THEN  
HE SHOULDN'T  
BE IN THE  
GO CLUB.

HMM...

FLIP  
FLIP

MONTHLY

NEC

一步救さんでる。



YOU  
KNOW  
THAT,  
DON'T  
YOU?

IT'S NOT  
GOING TO  
BE THAT  
EASY...

I-I  
KNOW.

SO,  
YOU'RE  
GOING  
AFTER  
AKIRA,  
HUH?

We're applying to the  
same high school —  
why is his  
attitude so  
different?



YOU  
SHOULDN'T  
WORRY  
ABOUT  
TOURNA-  
MENTS.

I GUESS  
HE'S  
RIGHT...



HIKARU...









IT'S UP  
TO HIKARU  
WHETHER  
HE QUIT  
THE CLUB  
OR NOT.

WHAT AN  
OBNOXIOUS  
LITTLE PUNK.



HIKARU  
FORCED  
ME TO JOIN  
THE CLUB SO  
WE COULD  
COMPETE IN  
TOURNA-  
MENTS!

YOU  
DON'T  
KNOW  
ANYTHING  
ABOUT  
THIS!



YUKI!

SO, IT'S  
NOT JUST  
UP TO HIM!  
BUT THAT'S  
FINE! I'LL  
JUST QUIT  
THE GO  
CLUB, TOO!





TETSUO!

SURE, DO  
WHATEVER  
YOU WANT.  
IT'S UP TO  
YOU.



WHAT?!  
AT THE  
SAME  
TIME?!

YOU'RE  
GOING TO  
PLAY THREE  
GAMES AT  
THE SAME  
TIME.



UH...  
THREE...

HUH?

BRING  
'EM ALL  
OUT.



TSUTSUI,  
HOW MANY  
GO BOARDS  
HAVE YOU  
GOT HERE?

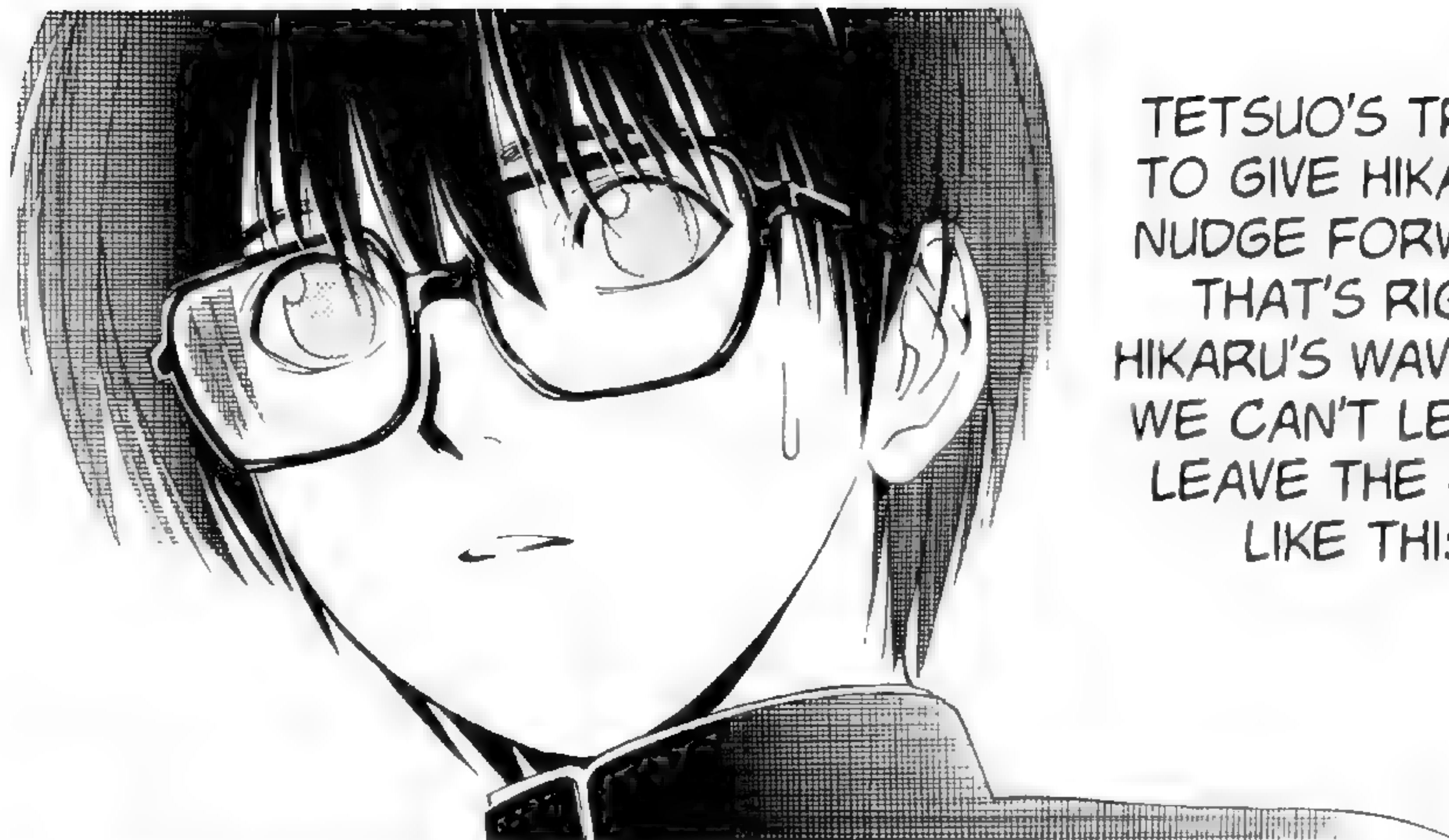


BEFORE HE  
LEAVES, HIKARU'S  
GOING TO HAVE  
TO SHOW THE  
THREE OF US  
WHAT HE'S  
REALLY MADE  
OF.

HEY,  
OBNOXIOUS  
PUNK, YOU  
PLAY, TOO.



I'VE GOT  
TO DO  
SOME-  
THING.



TETSUO'S TRYING  
TO GIVE HIKARU A  
NUDGE FORWARD.  
THAT'S RIGHT...  
HIKARU'S WAVERING.  
WE CAN'T LET HIM  
LEAVE THE CLUB  
LIKE THIS.

WAIT,  
YUKI...



YUKI!



C'MON,  
YUKI. PLAY  
THIS ONE  
LAST  
GAME.



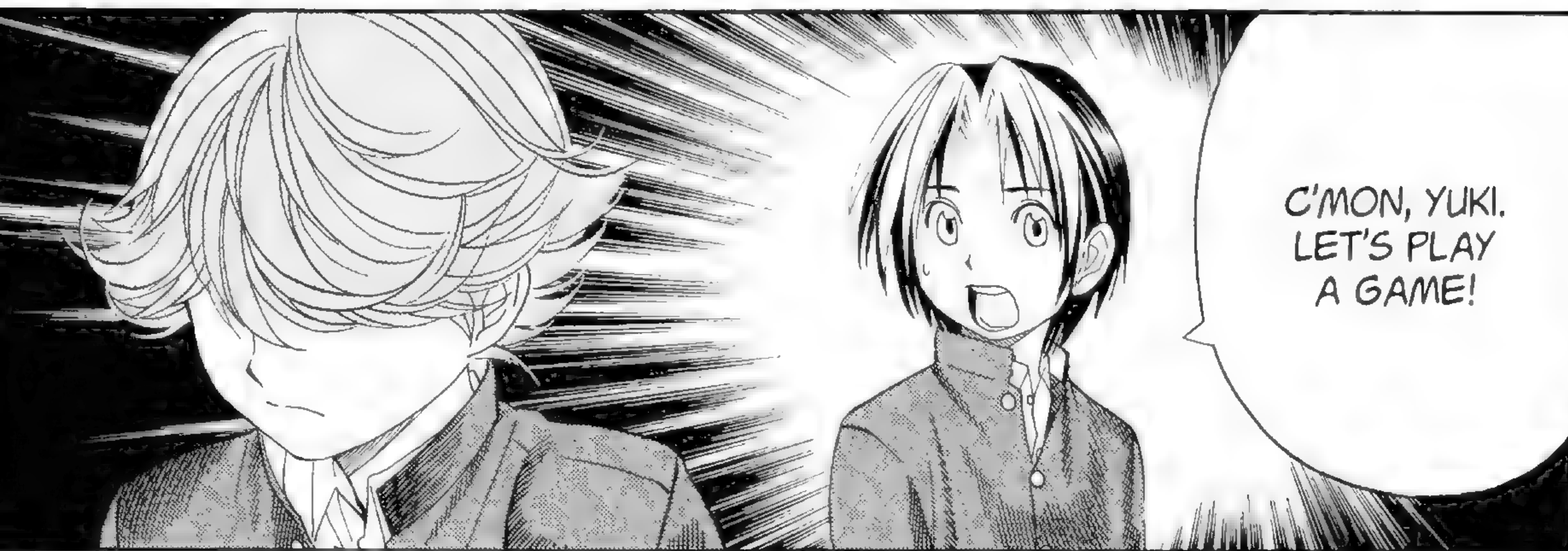
KIMIHIRO...

AKARI,  
WILL YOU  
HELP ME  
GET THE  
BOARDS  
OUT?



YOU'RE RIGHT,  
TETSUO.  
WE'LL HAVE  
HIKARU PLAY  
ALL THREE  
OF US AT  
ONCE.



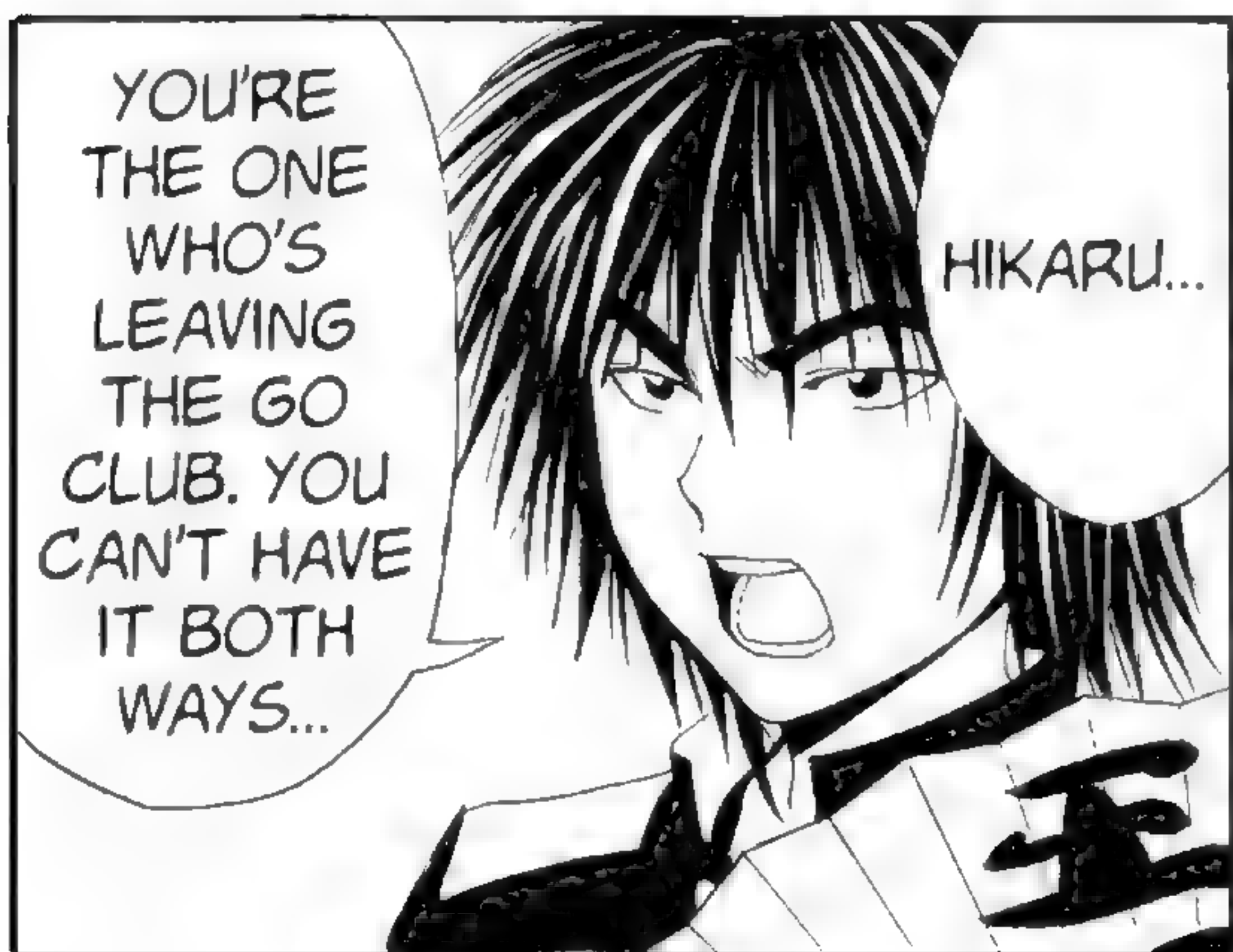






I DON'T CARE WHAT YOU DO NOW. I'M QUITTING THE GO CLUB!

DON'T JERK ME AROUND!



YOU'RE THE ONE WHO'S LEAVING THE GO CLUB. YOU CAN'T HAVE IT BOTH WAYS...

HIKARU...

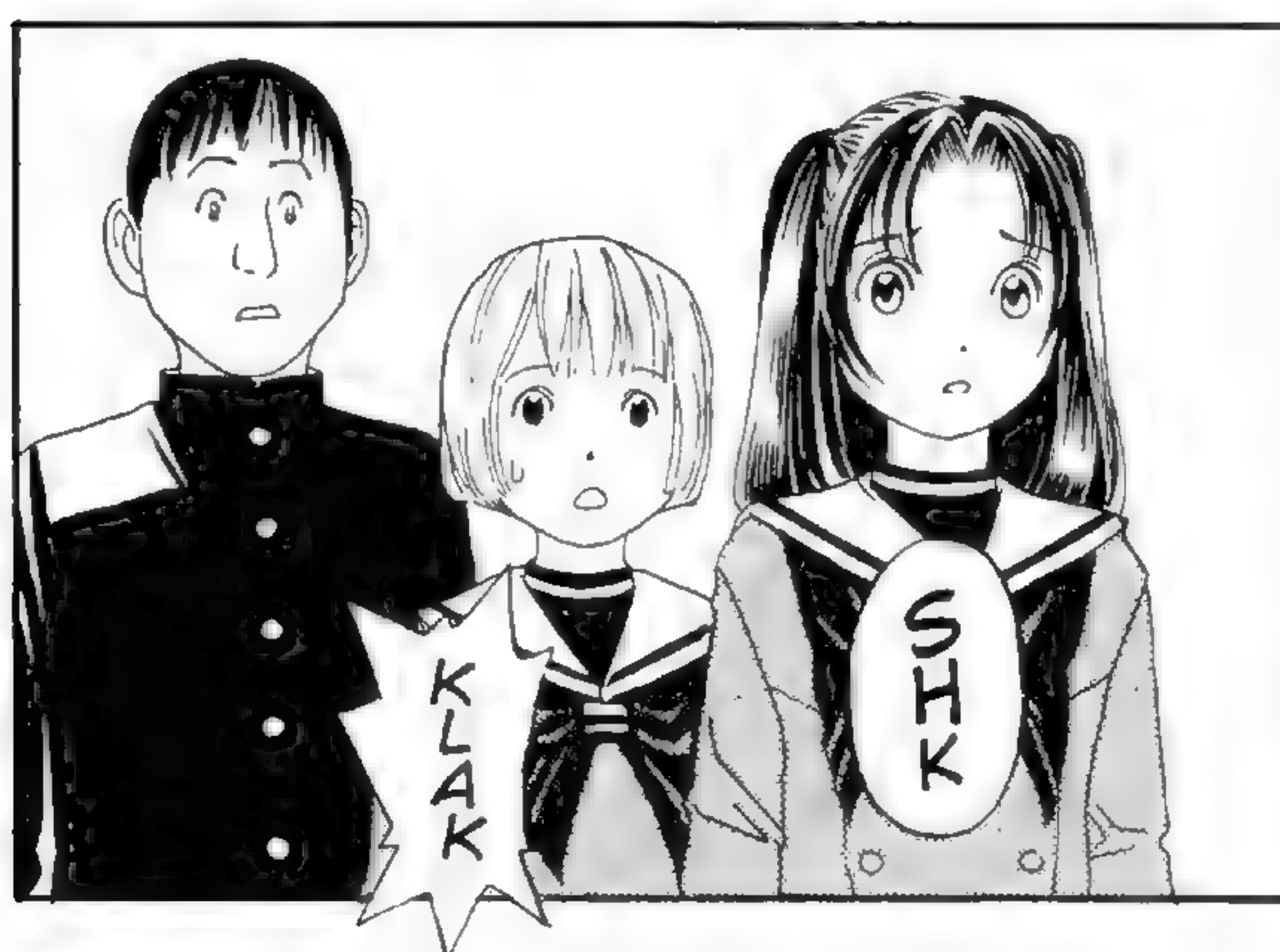


YUKI, IF I DON'T PASS THE INSEI EXAM, WE CAN STILL ENTER TOURNAMENTS TOGETHER AND —

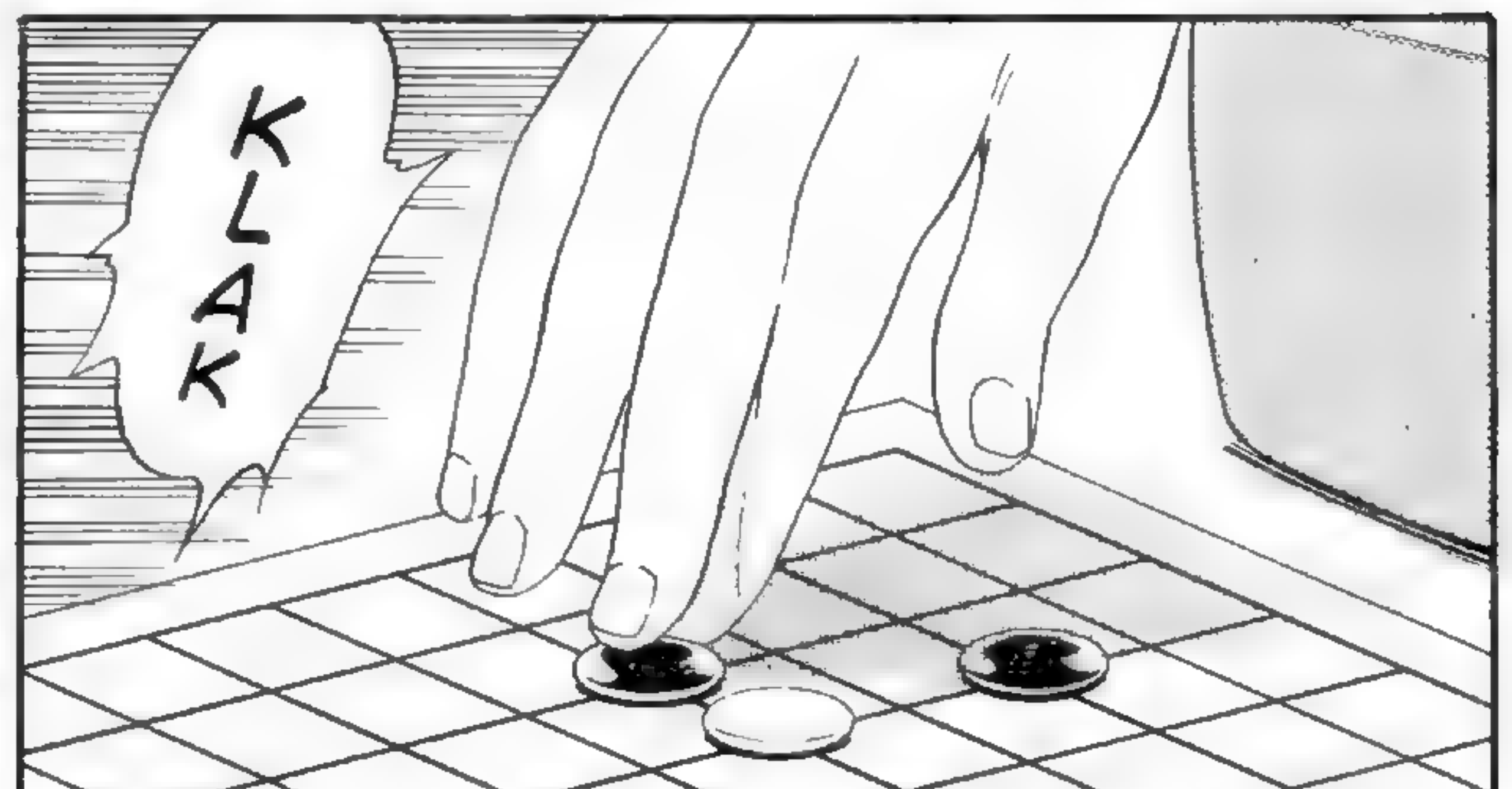




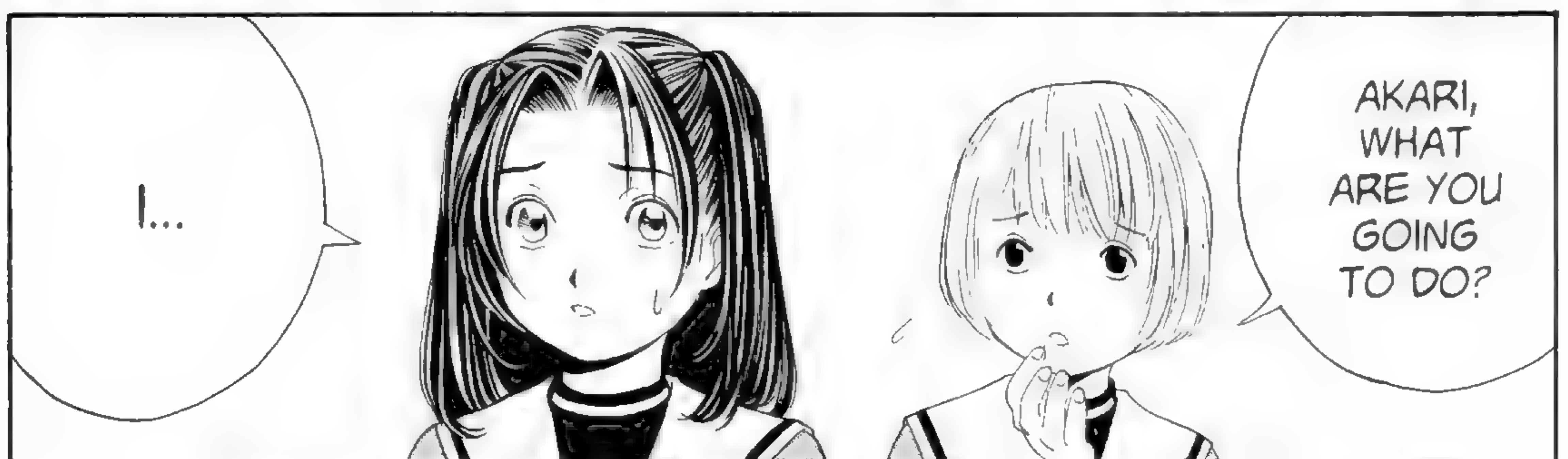








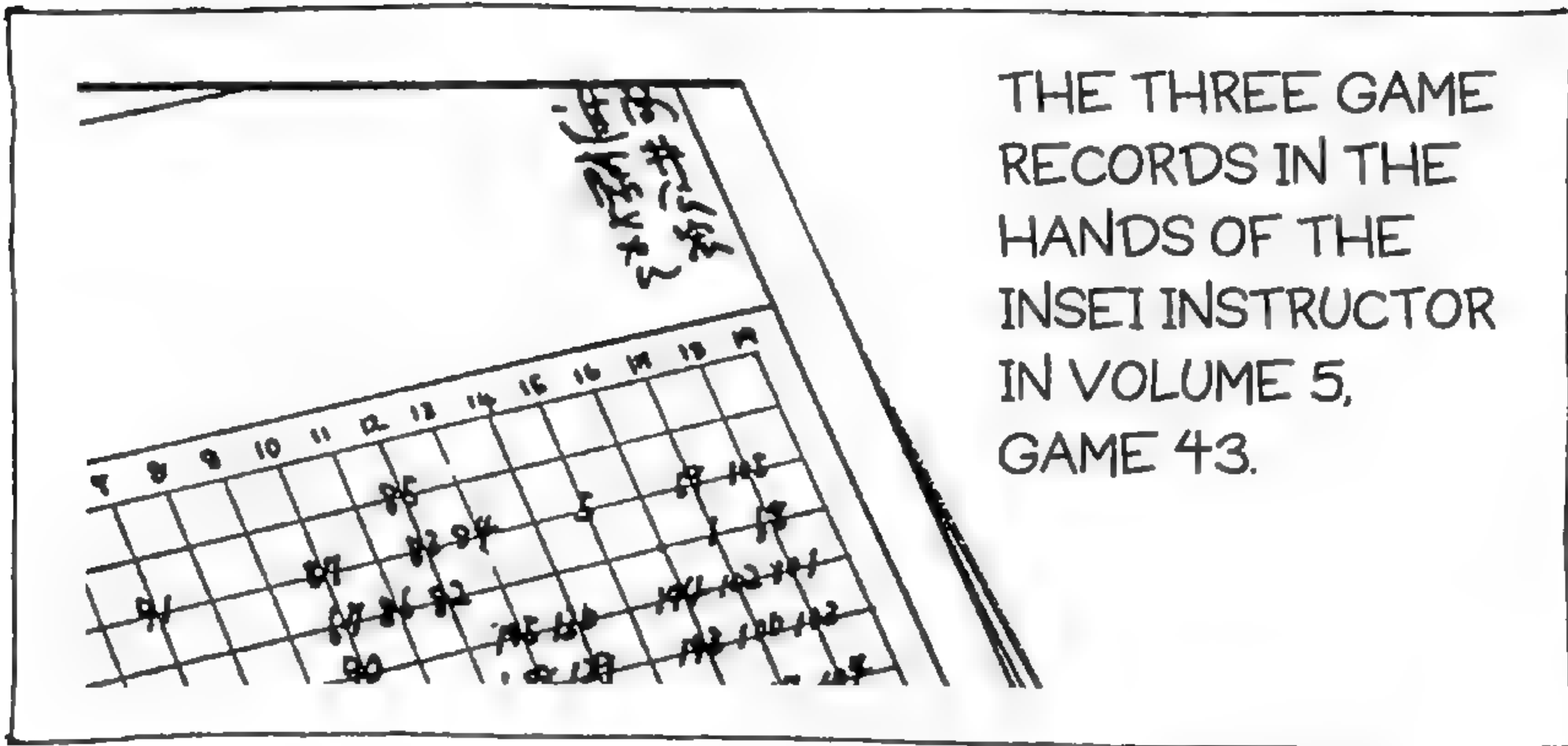












THE THREE GAME RECORDS IN THE HANDS OF THE INSEI INSTRUCTOR IN VOLUME 5, GAME 43.

# HIKARU NO GO STORYBOARDS

(14)

YUMI HOTTA



PART OF AN EDITOR'S JOB IS TO MAKE MINOR CORRECTIONS TO THE ILLUSTRATIONS.

Right here.

Their names should be written on this.



KIMIHIRO'S AND HIKARU'S NAMES ARE WRITTEN IN VERY SMALL WRITING ON THE TOP SHEET. MY EDITOR TAKAHASHI IS ACTUALLY THE ONE WHO WROTE THEM DOWN.

THAT'S EASY FOR HIM TO SAY...



Also, filling in black areas that have been missed and whiting out smudges, too.



And then I might try to draw over the white areas before they dried completely!

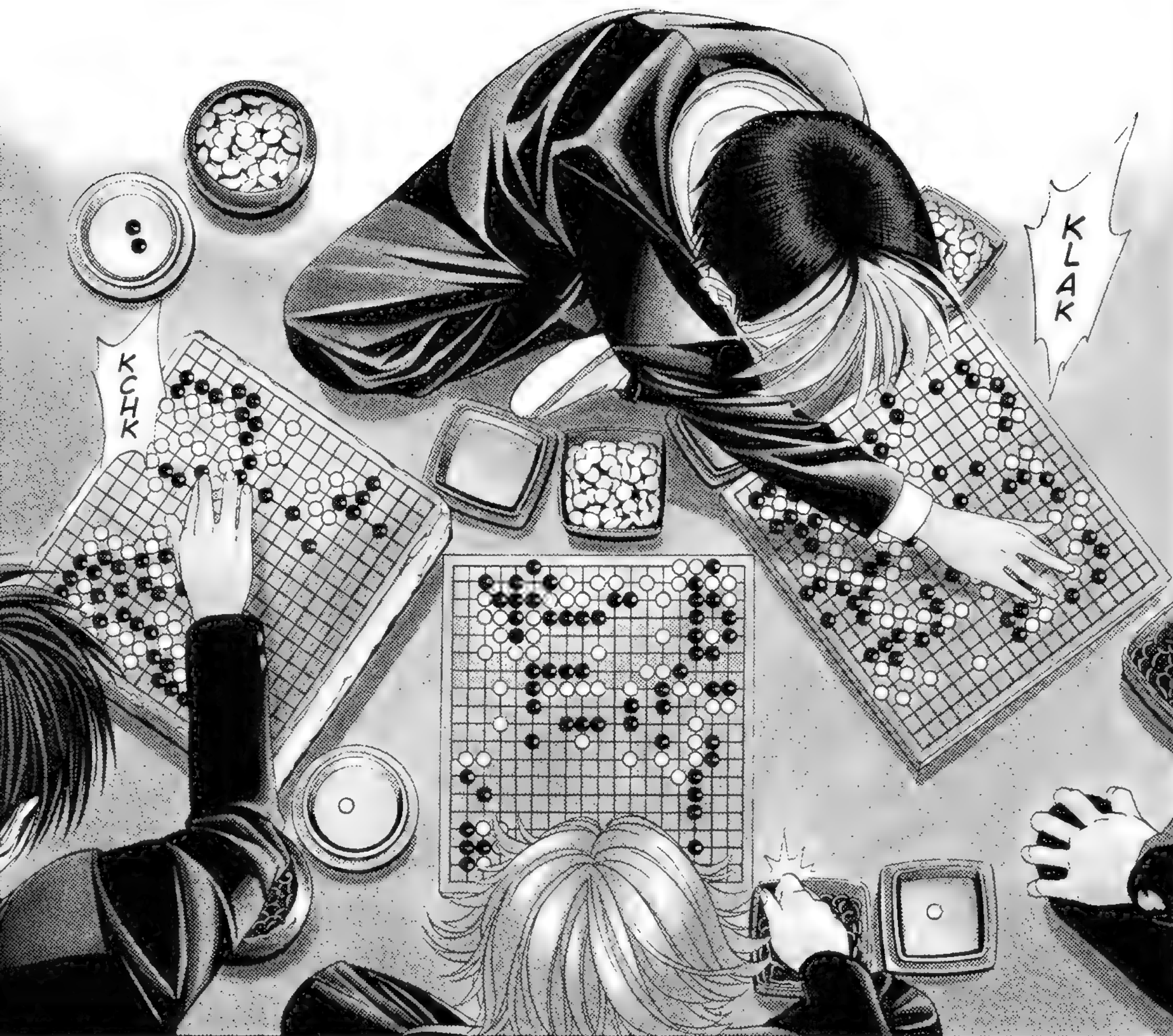
Then, I'd try to fix that and the white areas would go too far into the black.

After all, what if I went outside the lines as I filled in the black?

I'D BE TOO SCARED TO DO ANY OF THAT.







Game 43:  
"Yet Another Step Forward"







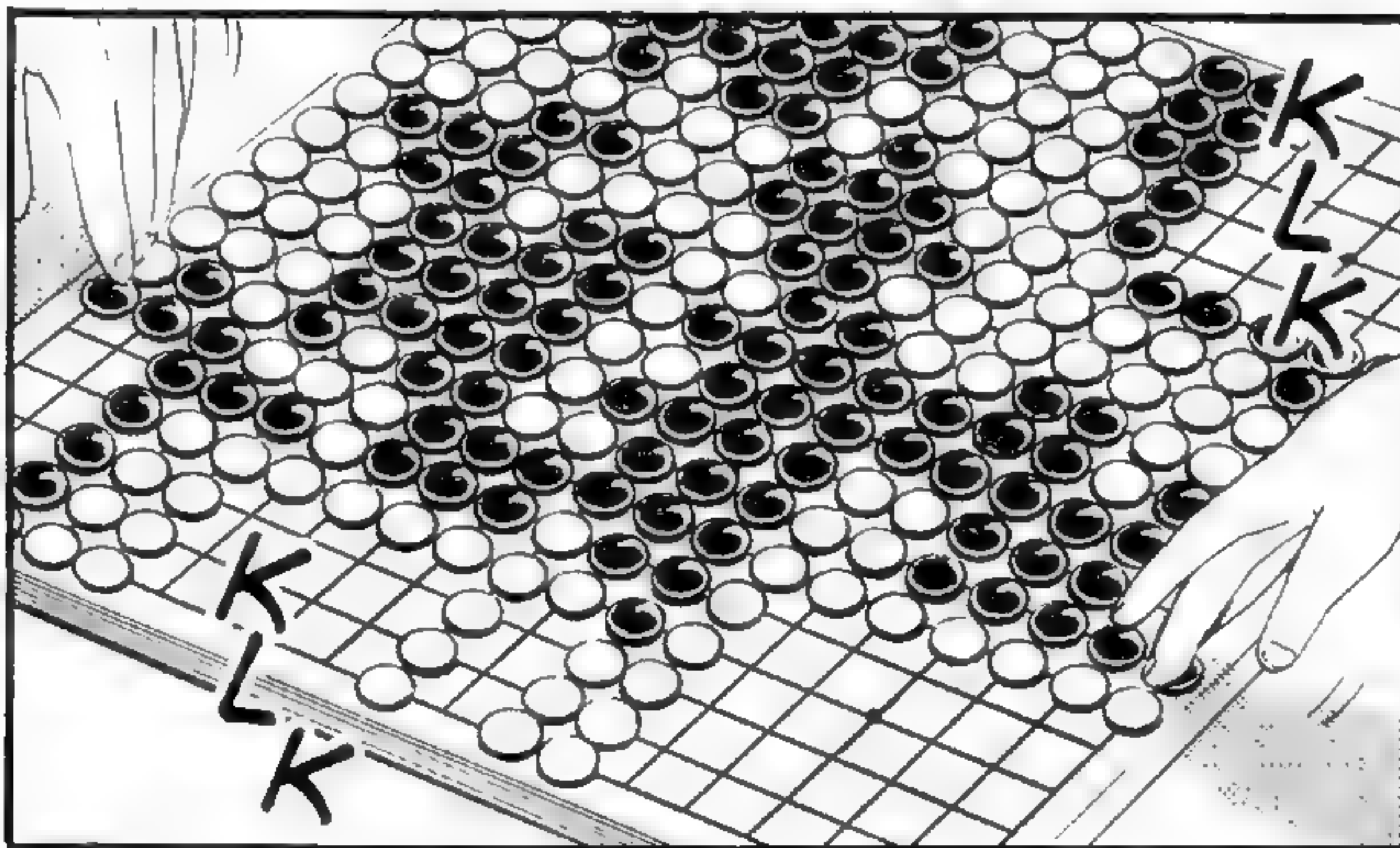


Game 43 "Yet Another Step Forward"





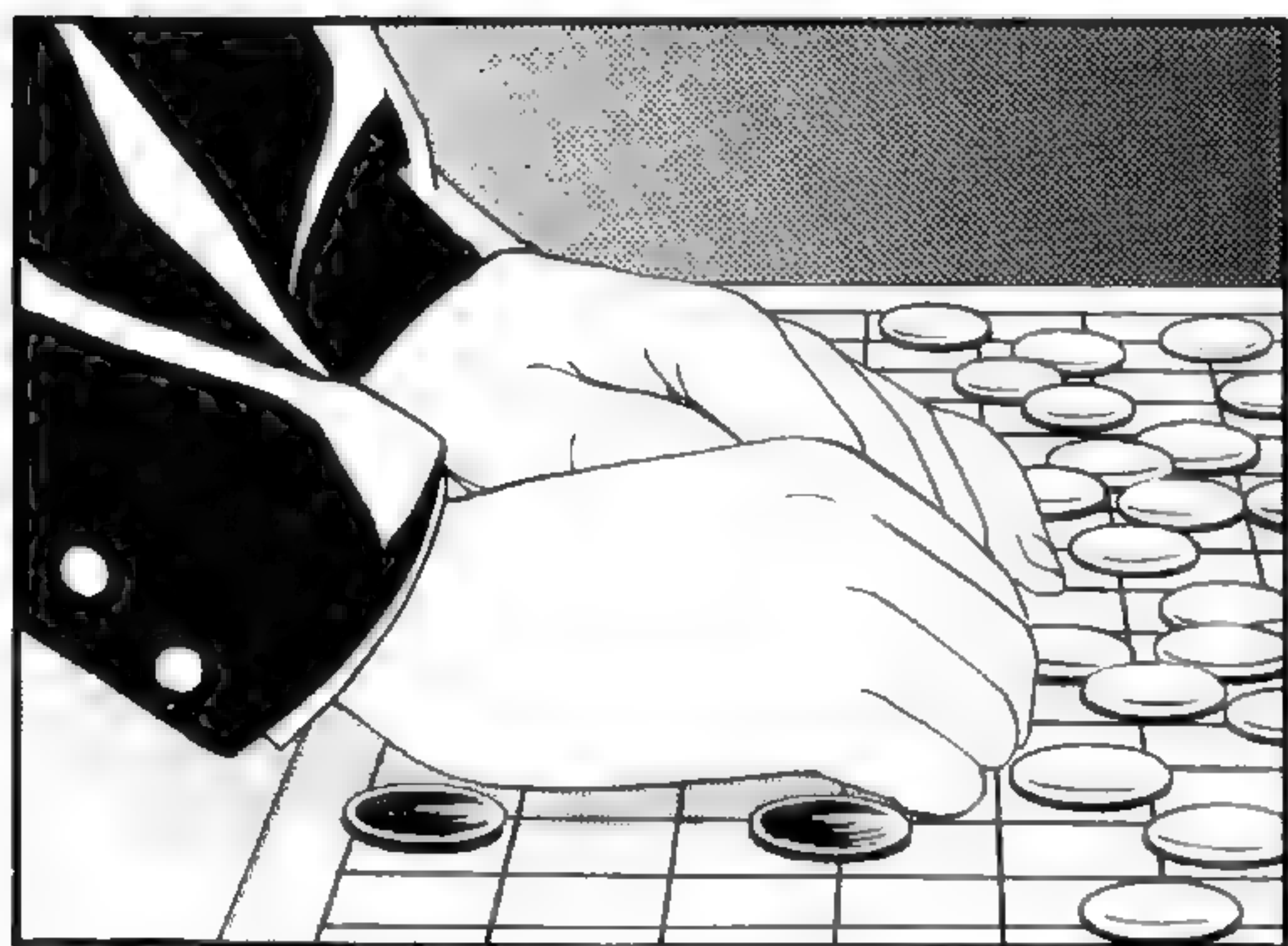








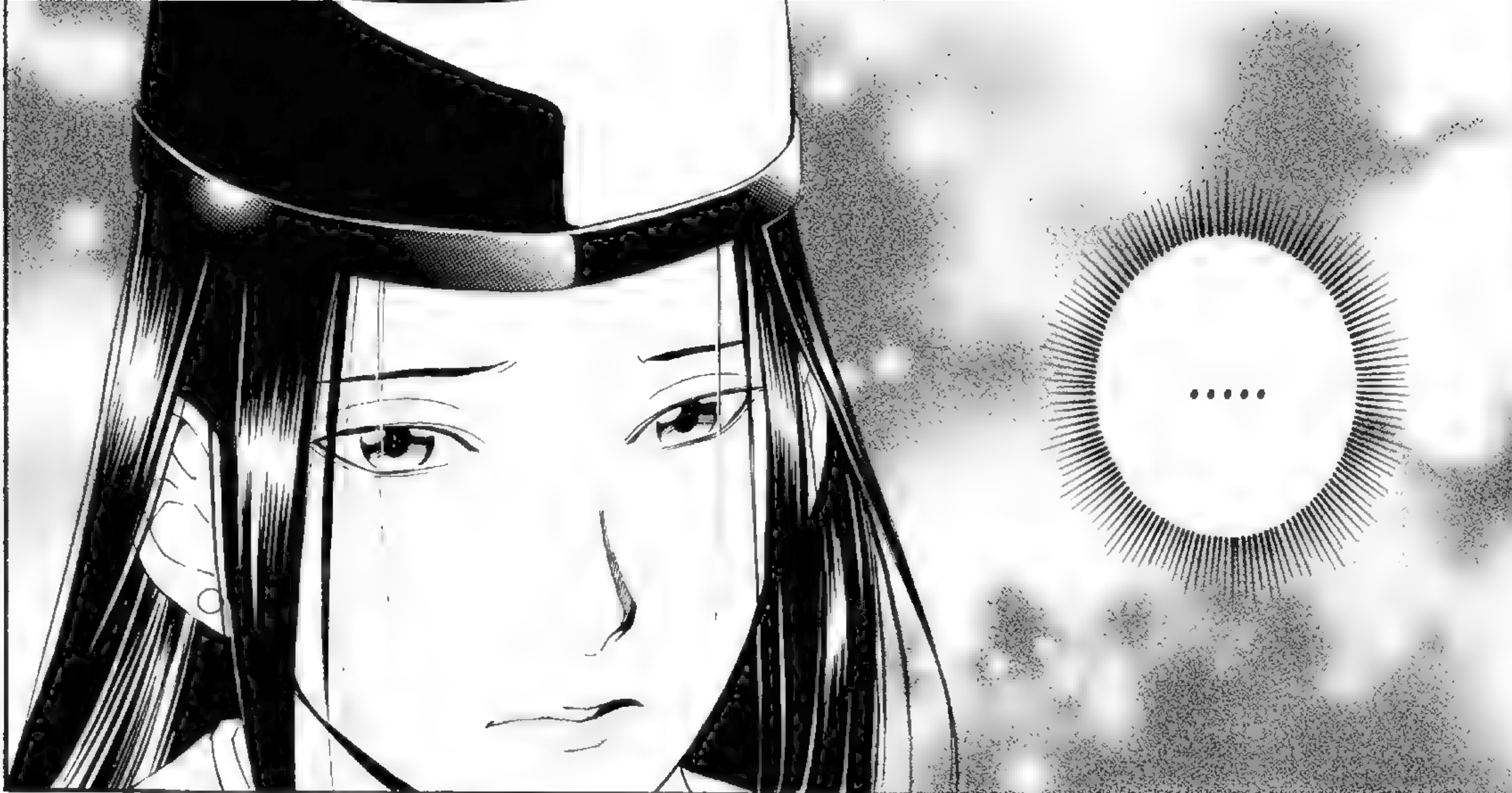












I'm so  
sorry...

Thank  
you,  
Yuki...

It was  
so that you  
could take yet  
another step  
forward,  
Hikaru.

You gave it  
everything  
you had.

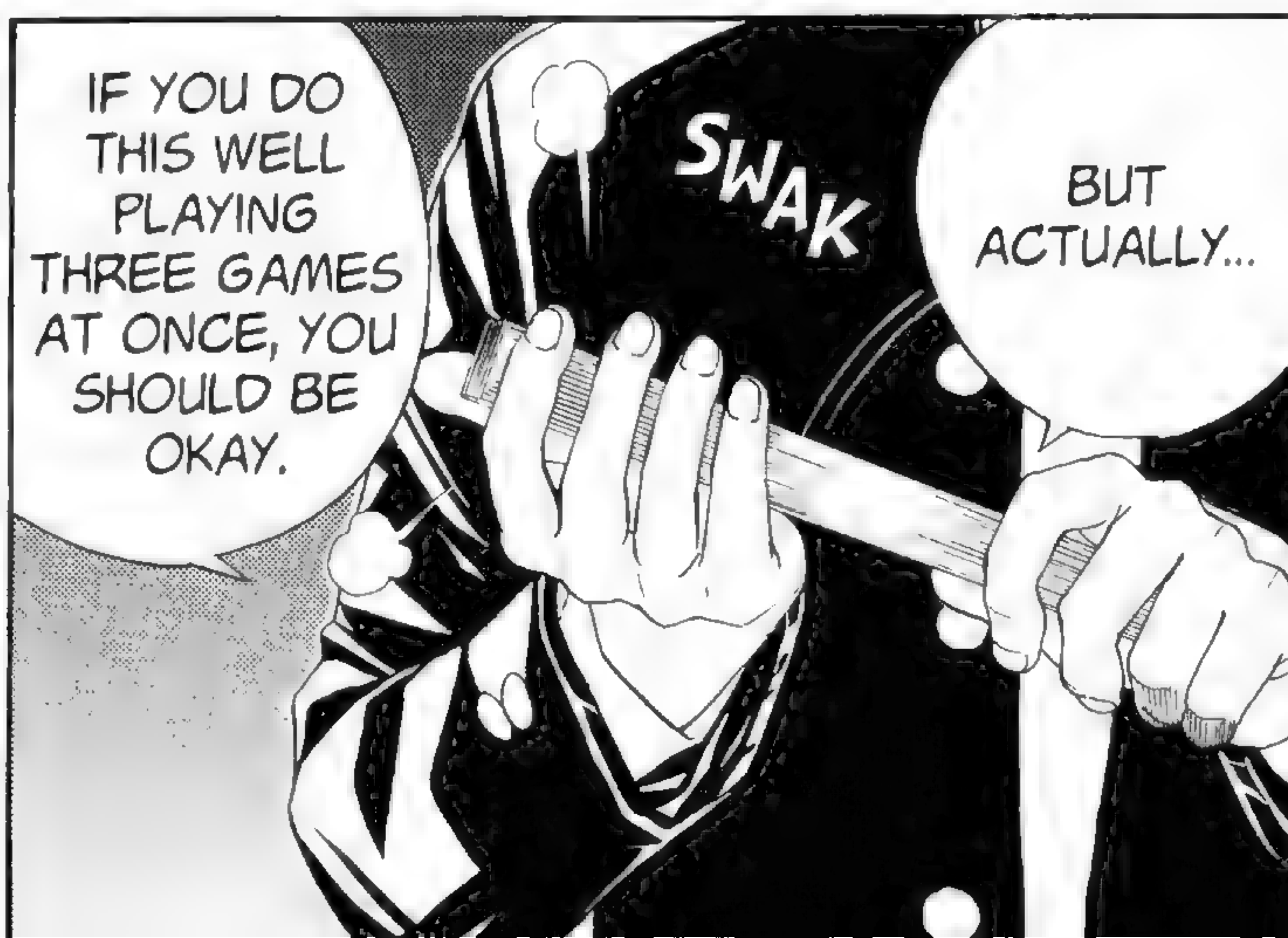




The game  
against  
Tetsuo is all  
that's left.











HOW  
THE HECK  
WOULD  
I KNOW?  
I'M NOT  
GIVING THE  
EXAM.

I TOLD  
YOU, PLAYING  
SIMULTANEOUS  
GAMES IS DIFFERENT FROM  
REGULAR  
GAMES.

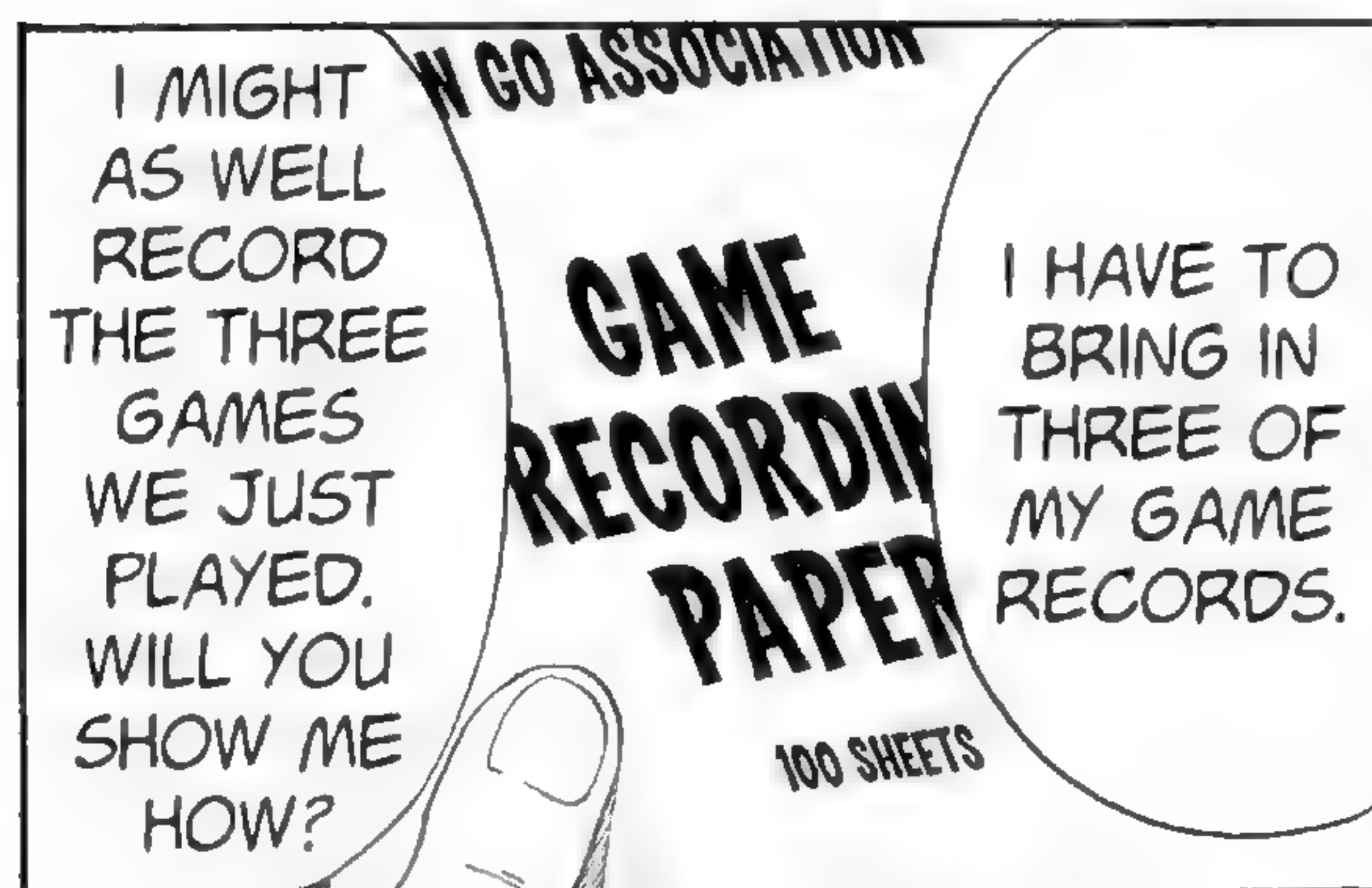
REALLY?!

YOU THINK  
I'LL PASS  
THE INSEI  
EXAM?



NOBODY  
EVER  
SAID  
THAT!!

HEY,  
DOES THAT  
MEAN I COULD  
PROBABLY  
BEAT YOU IN A  
ONE-ON-ONE  
GAME?



I MIGHT  
AS WELL  
RECORD  
THE THREE  
GAMES  
WE JUST  
PLAYED.  
WILL YOU  
SHOW ME  
HOW?

GO ASSOCIATION  
**GAME  
RECORDING  
PAPER**  
100 SHEETS

I HAVE TO  
BRING IN  
THREE OF  
MY GAME  
RECORDS.



UH,  
SURE...

OH YEAH...  
KIMIHIRO,  
DO YOU  
KNOW HOW  
TO DRAW  
UP A GAME  
RECORD?



OF  
COURSE...



YOU CAN  
REMEMBER  
ALL THREE?

THE  
GAMES  
WE JUST  
PLAYED  
...?





.....

RED IS FOR WHITE. YOU WRITE IN THE NUMBER FOR WHEN EACH MOVE WAS MADE.

YOU'LL NEED RED AND BLACK BALLPOINT PENS. A RED PENCIL WILL WORK, TOO.



WRITE THE MOVE NUMBER HERE...

HOW DO YOU SHOW A KO?

AND RIGHT NEXT TO IT, PUT THE NUMBER OF THE MOVE IT REPLACES.



THIS COULD TURN OUT TO BE PRETTY INTERESTING.

HMPH...

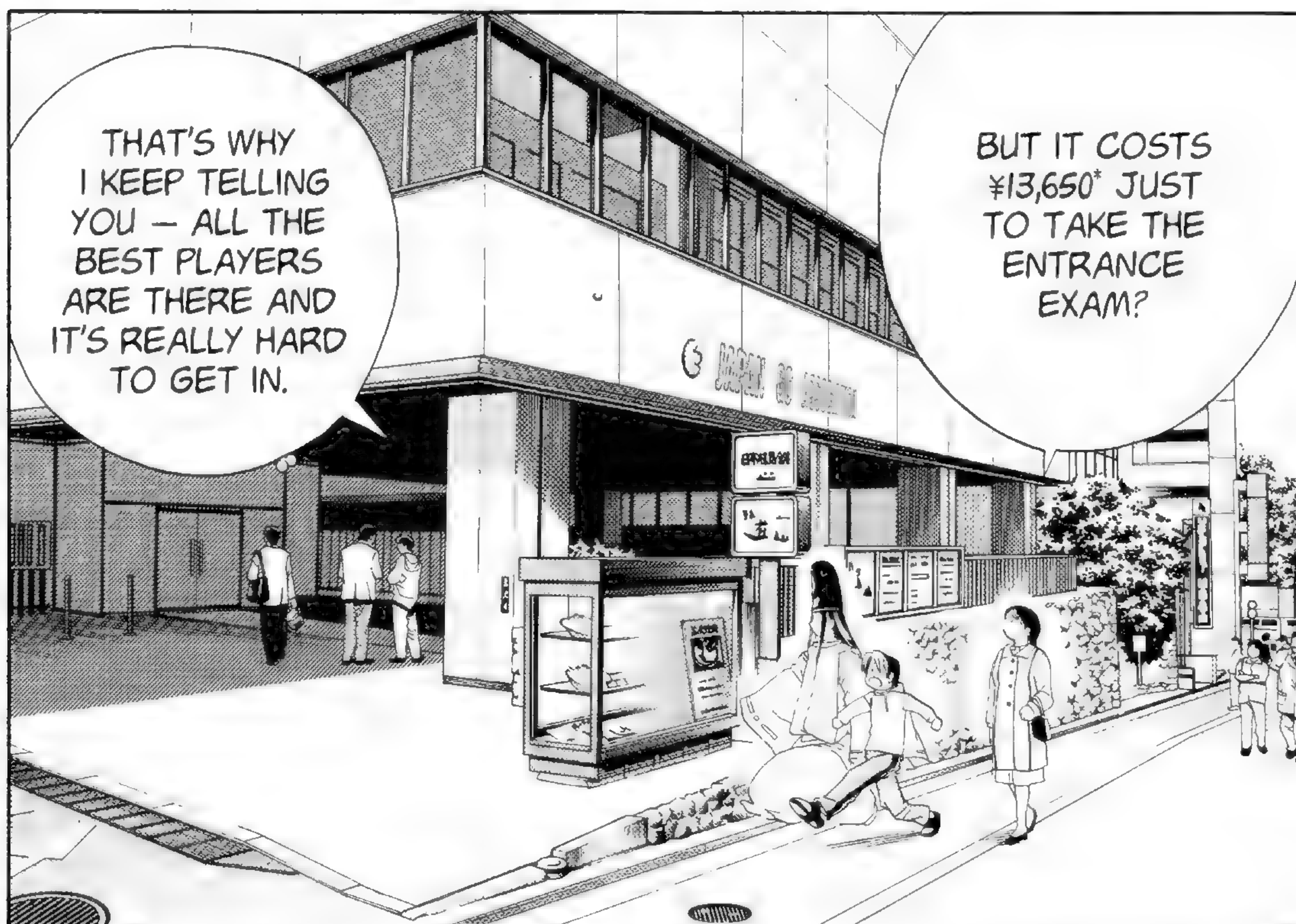
SHFF



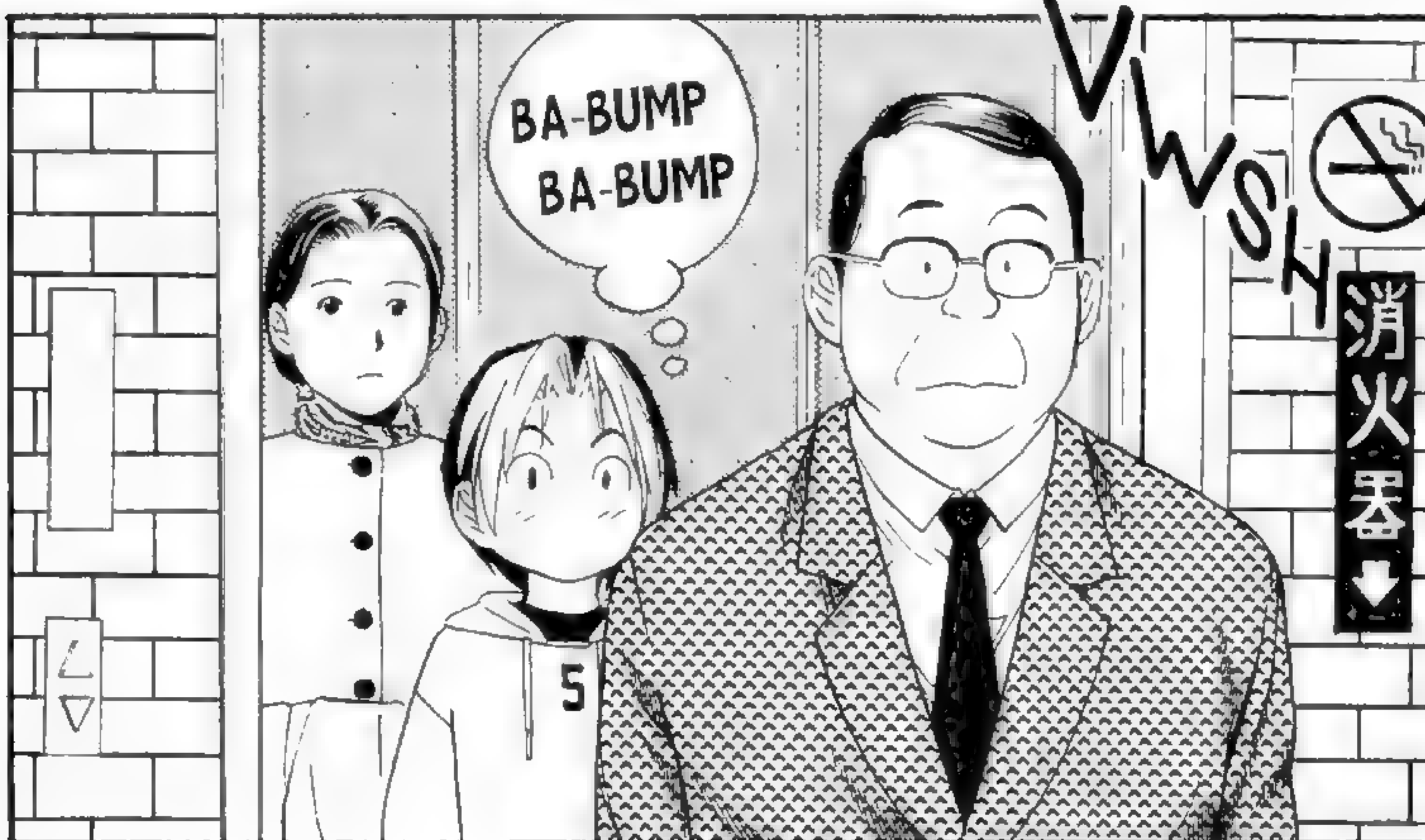
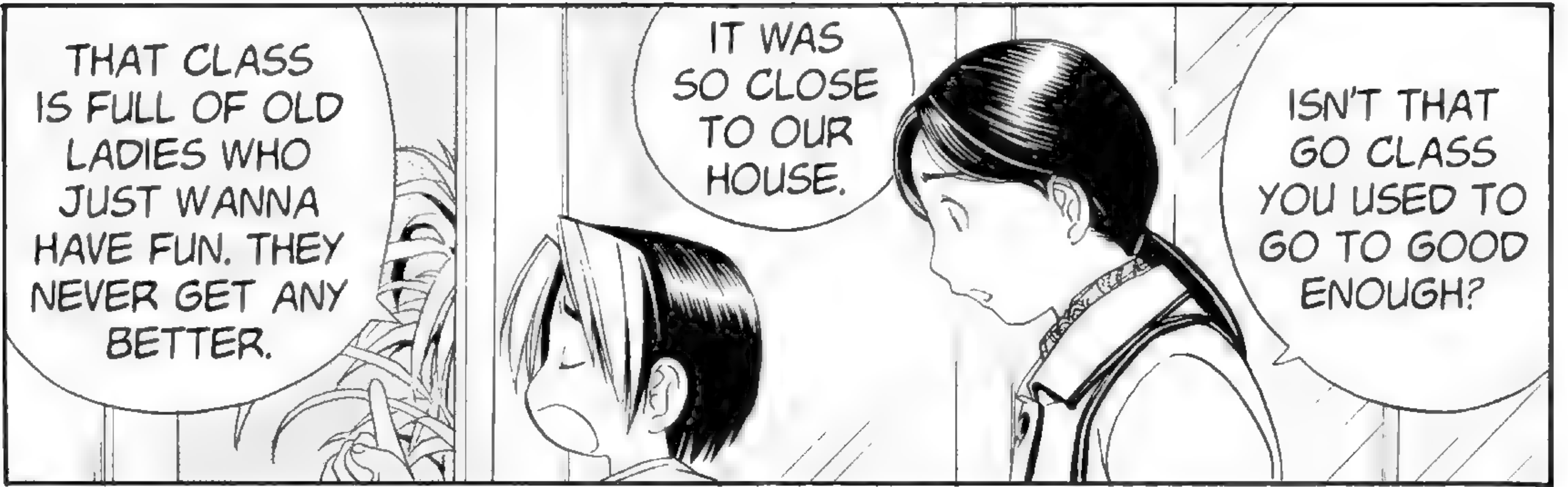
THWAK







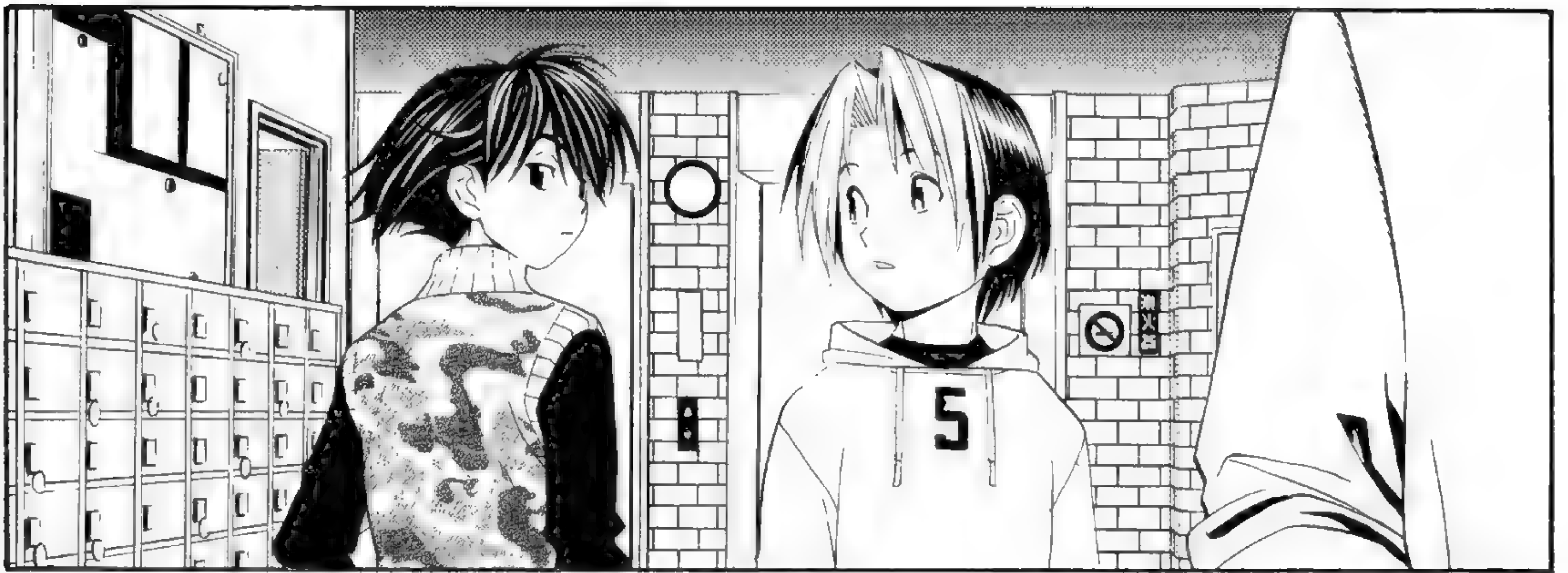












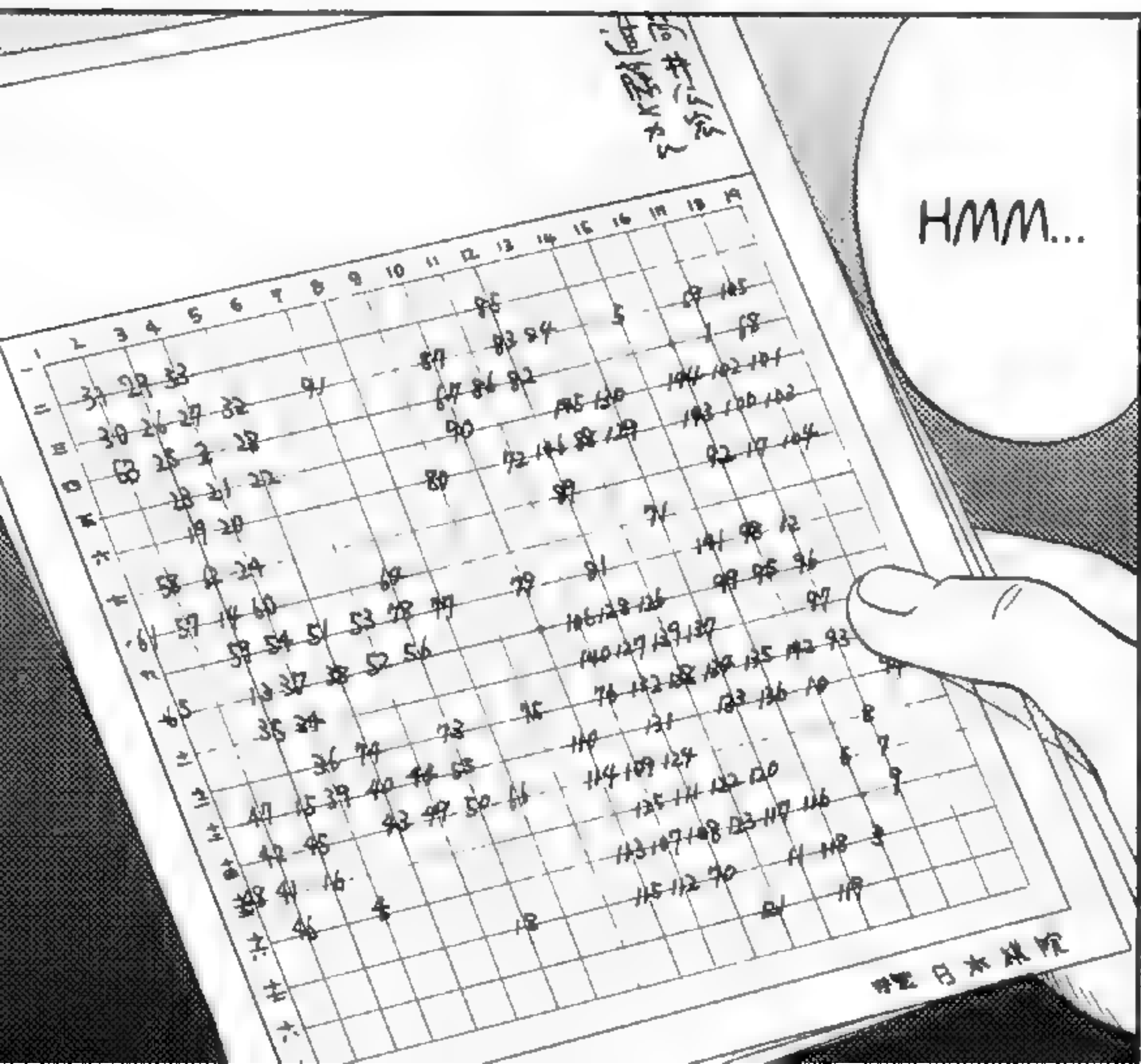












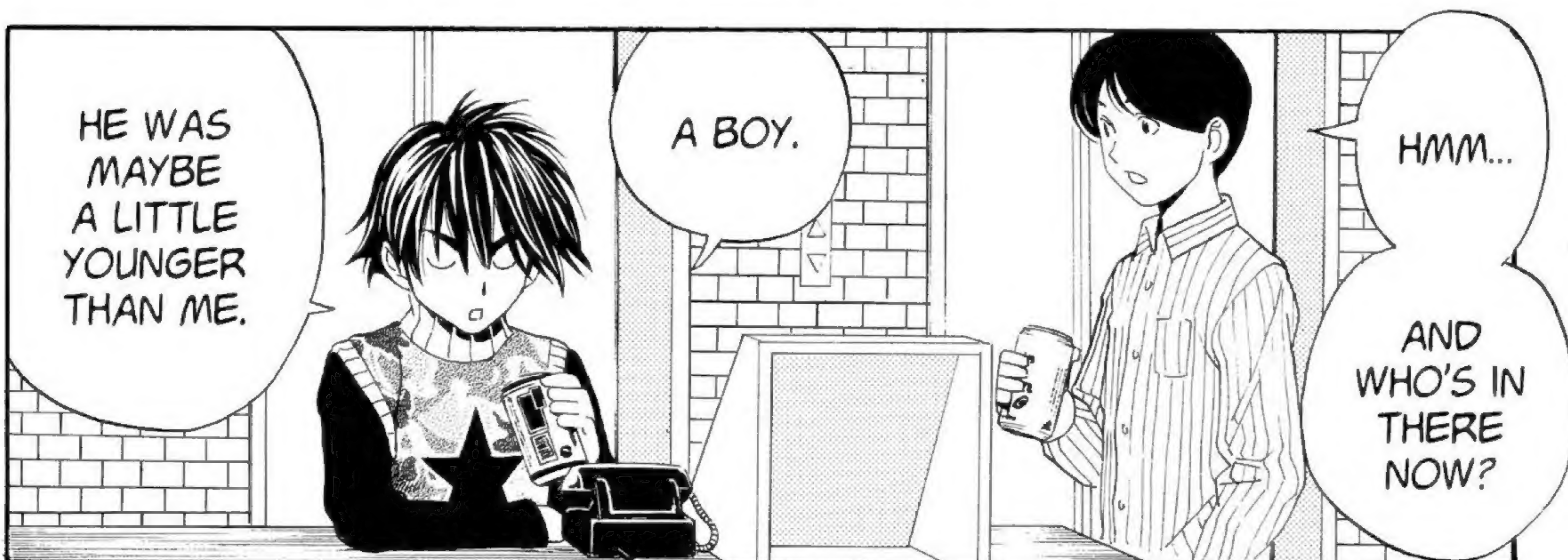


















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